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JPRS Report

Proliferation Issues

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PROLIFERATION ISSUES

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[This report contains foreign media information on issues related to worldwide proliferation and transfer activities in nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons, including delivery systems and the transfer of weapons-relevant technologies.]

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JAPAN

U.S. Formally Notified on Plutonium Shipment

OW1510143592 Tokyo KYODO in English 1420 GMT
15 Oct 92

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 15 KYODO—Japan formally notified the U.S. Government Thursday of its plans to transport about one ton of plutonium from France to Japan, government sources said.

The notification comes under an agreement between the two governments on the peaceful use of nuclear power and is the final step between Tokyo and Washington as preparations for the shipment enter their final stages.

A Japanese ship, the 4,800-ton Akatsuki Maru is on its way to Cherbourg, France, where it will pick up the plutonium to be used in a Japanese fast-breeder nuclear reactor.

For security purposes, the Japanese Government is not making the shipping schedule known, but the shipment of 133 casks holding the plutonium is expected to leave the French port some time later this month or early next month.

The plutonium has been extracted from spent nuclear fuel from Japan reprocessed by France's state-run nuclear fuel company.

In the notification, Japan outlined measures it will take in emergencies or a possible terrorist hijacking.

The Akatsuki Maru has been equipped with equipment which can automatically transmit the ship's location and status and controls to make opening and closing the cargo hold impossible.

To protect the transport, the Maritime Safety Agency's 6,500-ton patrol ship, the Shikishima, is being dispatched and the U.S. will monitor the shipment via satellite.

Government, Russia To Set up Reactor Center

OW1210122092 Tokyo KYODO in English 1112 GMT
12 Oct 92

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 12 KYODO—Japan has agreed with Russia to set up a technical center at a nuclear power station site in Novovoronezh, Russia, to help improve the safety of reactors in former Soviet republics, officials of the Natural Resources and Energy Agency said Monday.

The governments of the two nations will sign a memorandum early next year, the officials of an arm of the International Trade and Industry Ministry said.

The agreement followed bilateral negotiations by ministry officials and representatives of private companies during a visit to Russia late last month, they said.

The site, located some 400 kilometers south of Moscow, is typical of the former Soviet Union's pressurized water reactors, they said.

Japan promised to provide Russia with a 25 million dollar grant for the establishment of the new center at the July summit of the Group of Seven industrialized nations in Munich, they said.

The ministry plans to produce central control boards from next fiscal year so that the center can start a training program in 1995, they said.

Greater Efforts in Nuclear Non-Proliferation Urged

OW1410010492 Beijing XINHUA in English
1801 GMT 13 Oct 92

[Text] United Nations, October 13 (XINHUA)—Japan has called on all countries of the world to make greater efforts to enhance the effectiveness of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).

In the changing world which requires greater efforts for nuclear non-proliferation, "it is important to address the issue multinationally," Japanese Ambassador Yoshitoma Tanaka for disarmament affairs said today at the first committee (political and security).

The NPT is the central pillar of the efforts in the disarmament area and therefore it is of greater importance to enhance its universality and effectiveness, he continued.

Speaking at the committee which has entered its second day of general debate today, the Japanese ambassador said that his country, the sole nation to have been the victim of nuclear bombing, has long worked for the ultimate elimination of all nuclear weapons.

He hoped that progress would be made in regions where there is concern over proliferation, such as South Africa, the Middle East and the Korean peninsula.

As to the ban on nuclear testing, which is one of the main objectives of disarmament, he said, a complete ban should be achieved with the joint efforts by the international community on a step-by-step basis.

SOUTH KOREA

Nuclear Waste Storage Construction Delayed

SK1610051192 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
16 Oct 92 p 3

[Text] The Ministry of Science and Technology said yesterday that the government's plan to construct permanent storage facilities for nuclear wastes is being delayed because of strong opposition from citizens living in the candidate sites.

Six areas have been selected through comprehensive research by a Seoul National University institute but contacts with residents there to conduct surveys are presently impossible due to their strong objection, the ministry said in its report to the National Assembly yesterday.

The ministry did not identify the six candidate sites by name for the permanent storage but reaffirmed that Anmyon Island off the western coast had been dropped from the candidates' list. A massive popular uprising broke out on the island in November 1990 in protest.

Yongil-kun and Yondok-kun both of Kyongsangbuk-to, and Kosong-kun and Yangyang-kun, both of Kangwon-to, are reportedly among the six candidates designated by the university institute, however.

Surveys on the national and four provincial levels were conducted to pool out popular opinion on the construction of storage facilities but direct polls of the citizens of the six candidate areas could not be conducted, the ministry said.

The ministry plans to construct permanent burial facilities capable of storing some 50,000 tons of low- and intermediate-level radioactive wastes and temporary storage for 3,000 tons of spent fuel with high-level radioactivity by the end of this decade.

North Proposes JNCC Meeting at Panmunjom

SK1610092492 Seoul YONHAP in English 0901 GMT 16 Oct 92

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 16 (YONHAP)—North Korea Friday proposed that the South-North Joint Nuclear Control Commission [NCC] meet Oct. 23 at Panmunjom.

The suggestion was made in a telephone message to Kong No-myong, the South's chairman of the NCC, from Choe U-chin, the Northern NCC chairman.

Choe said he was calling a commission meeting because the three NCC contacts held since the eighth meeting failed to register any progress in the discussion of nuclear inspection rules.

On Oct. 14, the two sides had their third contact since the eighth meeting on the question of selecting sites to be inspected, but failed to make any headway. They decided to meet again on Oct. 29.

Commenting on Friday's message, Chong Tae-ik, Foreign Ministry director-general for American Affairs and the South's deputy NCC chairman, said the South would affirmatively review the Northern proposal.

Koreas 'To Narrow' Gap

SK1410083492 Seoul YONHAP in English 0817 GMT 14 Oct 92

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 14 (YONHAP)—South and North Korea held the third contact of members of the Joint

Nuclear Control Commission Wednesday morning but failed to produce agreements on the method and objects of nuclear inspection.

South Korea proposed dividing inspections into regular and special types with the two sides conducting a regular inspection quarterly and a special inspection 12 times a year. But the number of inspections and places of inspection will be subject to future negotiations, it said at the contact at the truce village of Panmunjom.

The South reaffirmed its position that there should be no area that is off limits to inspectors and that all suspected military installations should be the target of an inspection.

North Korea proposed that the objects of inspection be divided into nuclear weapons and nuclear bases, and nuclear facilities and nuclear materials. The objects and number of inspections could be worked out through negotiations after exchanging information on them.

The two sides failed to narrow their differences when North Korea refused to accept the southern demand for simultaneous and special inspections. North Korea said that since nuclear weapons and nuclear bases exist only in South Korea, inspections in this category should be carried out only in the South.

They decided to make their next contact on Oct. 29.

A South Korean official said Tuesday it hoped to finish reading of the draft proposal as soon as possible. If there were conditions that could not be worked in a compromise at working-level contacts, "a political solution" should be sought on North Korea's part.

The official said the South would not put up with North Korea's "delaying tactics," indicating it was ready to take other measures if Pyongyang continues to drag its feet in the deliberation of the draft proposal.

Inspection Rules Discussed

SK1410041092 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0315 GMT 14 Oct 92

[Text] North and South Korea had a contact of members of the Joint Nuclear Control Committee this morning. They discussed the clause on how to select targets of inspections and a clause on the rules of inspection.

In today's contact, our side proposed that inspections be divided into regular inspections and special inspections, that regular inspections be conducted every three months, and that special inspections be conducted on 12 occasions a year. Our side added: Still, the two sides can discuss and readjust the number of inspections and the targets of inspection.

The North side proposed that nuclear weapons, nuclear bases, and nuclear material be inspected, that the North and South decide on what to inspect and how often, and that the nuclear weapons and nuclear bases in the South only be inspected because they exist only in South Korea.

A pertinent official on our side said: Our side will examine the North's proposed rules of inspection and try to coordinate differences between the two sides' proposals at working-level negotiations. We cannot be delayed indefinitely by North Korea, which has been using delaying tactics, however.

In this way, the official hinted that the government has been mapping out separate measures.

Ministry Planning To Build Nuclear Power Plants
SK1310050492 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
13 Oct 92 p 9

[Text] A total of 18 nuclear power plants will be built by the year 2006 to meet the soaring electricity demand, according to a report released by the Energy-Resources Ministry yesterday.

Of the 18 plants, nine units with a combined production capacity of 8.1 million Kw will be built by 2001 while the remainder will be completed by 2006, said the report issued for the National Assembly's inspection of national affairs.

The 18 nuclear power plants are among the 85 power plants that the government seeks to build by 2006. Through the construction of 85 power plants, the country's power production capacity will be increased by about 44 million Kw.

The report said the massive increase in power production capacity is urgently needed due to demand spirals. Electric Power demand has expanded at an alarming pace over the past few years and the soaring march is expected to continue until the end of this century.

The report said the government plans to build the nine nuclear power plants planned for completion by 2001 at three existing nuclear power plant sites—Yonggwang, Ulchin and Wolsong. Of the nine units, construction of five has already started.

In Yonggwang where two atomic power plants have already been in operation, two more will be built by 1996 and two others by 2001. In Ulchin, where two units are in operation, two more will be built by 1999.

In Wolsong where the country's sole Candu-type reactor is installed, three more will be built by 1999, according to the report.

With nine nuclear power plants already in operation, the government is pursuing mammoth nuclear power development programs in its effort to reduce energy dependence on fossil fuel such as oil.

The report said the government seeks to designate three more nuclear power construction sites to accommodate the remaining nine nuclear units.

They will be selected from the nine candidate sites designated by the government in the early 1980s, it said.

The candidate sites include six in Cholla-namdo, two in Kyongsang-pukto and one in Kangwon-do.

MALAYSIA

Reaction to Japanese Plutonium Shipment

Foreign Minister Notes Concern

OW1510130392 Tokyo KYODO in English 1103 GMT
15 Oct 92

[Excerpt] Tokyo, Oct. 15 KYODO—Malaysian Foreign Minister Abdullah Badawi on Thursday [15 October] indicated he was concerned over the prospect of Japan shipping plutonium through the Strait of Malacca, Foreign Ministry officials said.

Abdullah, in talks with Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe, also urged Japan to agree to the formation of an East Asian Economic Caucus (EAEC) to boost the position of Asian countries as economic blocs emerge in Europe and North America and as the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) is failing to prevent protectionism, they said.

Abdullah, who arrived in Tokyo on Wednesday for a four-day stay after visiting China, was quoted as saying that Malaysia is concerned about the frequent accidents in the narrow, congested and pirate-infested Strait of Malacca, between the Malay Peninsula and Indonesia's Sumatra Island.

He told Watanabe that Malaysia is especially keen to prevent accidents in the commercial shipping lane involving spills of "dangerous substances." Last month there was a major oil spill there after a collision between an oil tanker and a container ship.

Watanabe, sensing his counterpart was alluding to Japan's possible shipment of radioactive plutonium through the 1,000-kilometer strait, said Japan is taking numerous safety measures to prevent accidents, but would nevertheless "take into full consideration" Malaysia's concerns, officials said.

Malaysia, Indonesia, and Singapore have objected to the Japanese ship Akatsuki Maru using the strait on its homeward journey from France in November. The ship is to carry a ton of weapons-grade plutonium for use in Japanese power stations. Japan has said it will avoid all territorial waters.

Abdullah repeated a call he made in a meeting Wednesday with International Trade and Industry Minister Kozo Watanabe for a conference of the countries around the strait and major shipping nations to look into how the shipping community could contribute to maintaining the straits. An average of 600 ships a day sail through the strait.

Officials said Watanabe did not take a position on the proposal, saying only that Japan, which is a major user of

the waterway, wants to cooperate to ensure safe navigation. He also said international efforts should be made to combat the problem of piracy there.[passage omitted]

Japan Urged To Reconsider

*BK0910071392 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English
0650 GMT 9 Oct 92*

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Oct 9 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Defence Minister Najib Razak said Friday Japan should reconsider any proposal to use the Straits of Malacca to bring home its shipment of plutonium.

Japan should take into account the sensitivities and the safety of the countries near the Straits of Malacca—Singapore, Malaysia, and Indonesia, he said.

“Japan’s plutonium carrying vessel should opt for a safer passage and avoid the Straits of Malacca where many accidents have occurred recently,” he told reporters.

Najib was commenting on reports emanating from Tokyo that the vessel might pass through the straits on its way to Japan from France.

About 3,000 ships pass through the 1,000-km straits every month.

VIETNAM

Dalat Institute Nuclear Research Work Reported

*BK1110100392 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network
in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 4 Oct 92*

[Text] With financial assistance from the International Atomic Energy Agency and bilateral cooperation with Russia, India, Cuba, Ukraine, and countries in the Asian Pacific region, the Dalat Nuclear Research Institute has successfully applied research work for the improvement of production and living.

In the first nine months of 1992, the institute has introduced the neutron analyzing and combining method to analyze elementary particles in geological, material, and environmental analyzing machines. This invention has contributed to the research and exploration of natural resources and minerals; agricultural, industrial, and export production; and to the work of medical and environmental treatment.

The Dalat Nuclear Research Institute has also produced many types of high quality nuclear equipment to check radiation infection of agricultural products and to diagnose medical problems in human beings.

ARGENTINA

Reaction to Passage of Japanese Plutonium Ship

Foreign Ministry Communique

PY0810224492 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish
8 Oct 92 p 54

[Text] The Foreign Ministry has noted: "The Argentine Government continues monitoring with concern the Japanese Government's intention to transport by sea a shipment of plutonium oxide from France to that country, without ruling out the possibility of using the Drake Passage." The Akatsuki Maru vessel is scheduled to depart from France soon, carrying to Japan a metric ton of plutonium oxide, equivalent to 120 nuclear bombs, for Japan's electric power plants.

Through a communique, the Foreign Ministry reported that, at the invitation of the Argentine Government, on 6 October "high-level diplomatic representatives from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, and Uruguay met at the Foreign Ministry" in order to review the situation. During this meeting, the diplomatic representatives studied the legal and technical points of this issue and outlined "the possible courses of action to prevent, if necessary, any risk that might involve their inhabitants, resources, or environment."

Agreement

The communique noted: "The representatives reached an agreement on the information available and their assessments of the situation, and decided to act in a coordinated manner on this issue." In this regard, the Argentine Government reasserted "its firm intention to take all the measures required in order to ensure that the population's security and the protection of the environment and natural resources will not be jeopardized and, in this regard, it is conducting busy diplomatic negotiations with all the governments involved."

Government 'Will Not Authorize'

PY1010215792 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS
ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2338 GMT 9 Oct 92

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 9 Oct (NA)—The Foreign Ministry has officially reported that the national government "will not authorize" the passage of the Japanese ship Akatsuki Maru, loaded with a little less than two tonnes of plutonium oxide through waters "closed to the Argentine coast."

The Foreign Ministry released a short four-point communique saying that the government will ask the Japanese Government "to report the date of passage, navigation plans, the fulfillment of international security requirements, the exchange of information, and other precautionary measures" regarding the Akatsuki Maru's passage.

The ship loaded with 1,700 kg of plutonium oxide is docked at a French port and it is presumed that it will leave for Japan in the coming weeks.

The Foreign Ministry says that "in light of the possibility that the ship might sail through waters close to the Argentine sea coast, it will not authorize the ship's passage through Argentina's jurisdictional waters."

The communique makes clear that, "according to the information available so far, no other government has communicated to Argentine authorities that they have forbidden the passage of the Akatsuki Maru through their own territorial waters and exclusive economic zone."

Juan Schroeder, head of the nuclear section of Greenpeace's Argentine office, said yesterday that "the Argentine Government has not made any decision up until now while South Africa, Indonesia, and Malaysia, through which the ship might pass on another possible route, already have forbidden the ship's passage."

The Foreign Ministry also said the government "continues to collect all pertinent information from the governments involved and international technical organizations through the appropriate diplomatic channels."

"Argentina maintains permanent consultations with the governments of the Federative Republic of Brazil, the Republic of Chile, and the Oriental Republic of Uruguay in order to coordinate actions and control the risks that might occur from such a passage." [passage omitted]

Uranium Plant Installed in La Rioja Province

PY1010222792 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish
0018 GMT 10 Oct 92

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 Oct (TELAM)—A uranium plant that operated in Villa Larca, San Luis Province, is being installed in Los Colorados township, La Rioja Province, where it will produce 118,000 kg of uranium.

The plant was transferred because the mineral was exhausted in the zone. The transfer was made through a contract with the National Commission for Atomic Energy [CNEA].

Los Colorados is an arid zone southwest of La Rioja's capital. Nearly one and half centuries ago, leader Vicente Penaloza, aka Chacho, [Argentine military officer, who rebelled against the government in 1863 and was executed], sought refuge in one of the zone's thousands of caves.

Mining Secretary Angel Eduardo Maza said that more than 1 million metric tons of rocks will be mined from the deposit. Some "225,000 metric tons contain the uranium that will be exploited. Approximately 118,000 kg of uranium oxide will be obtained after the uranium is processed." Maza said that, according to the work timetable, the plant's assembly will begin next week, and on

2 January "the mining exploitation itself will start with the mineral trituration process."

He said: "It is estimated that the first delivery of concentrated uranium will take place in May 1993."

BRAZIL

Reports on Angra-1 Nuclear Plant

Court Orders Closure

PY0810143892 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese
6 Oct 92 p 17

[Text] Judge Jose Ricardo de Siqueira Regueira of the 18th Federal Court, on 5 October ruled that the Angra-1 nuclear plant should be deactivated. This ruling endorses the action filed by former State Deputy Alexandre Jose Farah in 1988. The plant can only resume operation with the authorization of congress. This is the first ruling on the closure of the plant, previously only preliminary orders have been issued to deactivate the plant.

This is also the first time a legal decision has been made without involving the security of its operations. The judge's ruling is based on Article 49 of the constitution, which establishes that all activities of the executive branch linked to nuclear energy must be authorized by congress. Angra I, which produces nearly 20 percent of the energy used by the state, is currently operating at 95 percent of its capacity.

Furnas Electric Power Plants Inc. [FCE], which operates the plant, based its defense on the fact that Angra-1 does not need congressional authorization because it began operation in 1982, that is, before the constitution was promulgated. Regueira rejected this position, however.

He said: This would create an absurd situation because all nuclear plants built from now on would need congressional authorization, except for Angra-1.

A bailiff on 5 October delivered a legal notice to FCE President Eliseu Rezende advising him of the decision. A notice on the court ruling was also delivered to Senate President Mauro Benevides (PMDB-CE) [Brazilian Democratic Party Movement-Ceara]. Regueira said that the FCE can appeal to the Regional Federal Court, but until then the plant will remain closed.

Regueira said that the ruling orders the immediate deactivation of Angra-1, but technical situations may prevent it from being immediately shut down. If that happens, it will be gradually deactivated.

This is the third time the court has decided to deactivate the plant, and it has been shut down more than 20 times since 1982 for maintenance or failure in its equipment. The Angra-1 project has been criticized since the very beginning. The plant earned its very significant nickname: Lightning Bug.

One year and a half after its inauguration, Angra-1 encountered its first legal dispute. The State Department for Environmental Protection [Curadoria de Meio-Ambiente do Estado] closed the plant for six months through a preliminary order issued by the Angra dos Reis judge because the plant lacked an emergency evacuation system.

The same argument prompted the Court to issue a second preliminary order in October 1989 at the request of the Green Party. The plant was reactivated in January 1990 after a battle at the Federal Court.

To Resume Operations

PY0910210892 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese
7 Oct 92 p 13

[Excerpts] Despite the court decision ordering its closure, the Angra-1 nuclear plant will be reopened either today or tomorrow. This was reported yesterday by Pedro Figueiredo, thermal nuclear generation director of Furnas [Furnas Electric Power Plants, Inc.], the company responsible for the nuclear plant. According to Furnas lawyers, the plant can operate during the 15-day period Furnas has for appealing the court decision. [passage omitted]

The nuclear plant has been on a scheduled suspension of operations since 29 September, according to Pedro Figueiredo. During that period, one of the internal fans was repaired and maintenance work was done on the equipment.

Before being disconnected, the Angra-1 nuclear plant had been working at 95 percent of its capacity for 86 days, providing complementary energy to Rio de Janeiro as a result of the decrease in energy supplied by the Itaipu hydroelectric dam. [passage omitted]

Former Navy Minister To Head SAE

PY1410020992 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO
PAULO in Portuguese 13 Oct 92 p 5

[Article by Tania Monteiro]

[Text] Brasilia—Former Navy Minister Admiral Mario Cesar Flores has accepted interim President Itamar Franco's invitation to head the Strategic Affairs Secretariat (SAE). Yesterday, Flores held a lengthy conversation with the president at Planalto Palace, accompanied by the military ministers, to determine his responsibilities. They agreed that the new secretary will deal with strategic development plans and those projects linked to national security. The Federal Intelligence Center [CFI], to be created by a special law after the administrative reform, must be subordinate directly to President Itamar Franco with its 2,000 "agents" ["arapongas"] (agents of the extinct SNI—National Intelligence Service).

In the midst of discussions on the administrative reform, the interim president defined one of the functions of the CFI, which can be linked temporarily to the SAE. The

CFI will be responsible for the control of public expenditures, one of the fronts to fight corruption announced by Itamar Franco. The CFI also will establish the functions of the SNI, extinct since the beginning of Fernando Collor's term.

Admiral Flores is willing to carry on the studies conducted by his SAE predecessor, Eliezer Batista, who was preparing a strategic development plan for the country. This plan provided for the creation of new "axes" such as that linking Mato Grosso to Sao Paulo. The new secretary also will keep the National Nuclear Energy Commission (CNEN) and the so-called "special projects," a set of programs of military interest linked to national security, under his control. The Center for Training and Betterment of Human Resources [Centro de Formacao e Aperfeicoamento de Recursos Humanos] (Cefar), which replaced the extinct National Training School, also will be maintained within the new SAE structure.

The new secretary must pay special attention to the project for research in the nuclear energy area developed by the Navy. Mario Flores was one of the creators of the uranium enrichment program and of the construction of the Brazilian nuclear submarine, jeopardized in the last few years by the lack of funds. Flores was the only member of the top-level team of dismissed President Fernando Collor to be invited to remain in Itamar Franco's government.

CHILE

Passage of Japanese Plutonium Cargo Rejected

PY1510190692 Santiago LA TERCERA DE LA HORA
in Spanish 8 Oct 92 p 16

[Report by Patricia Escalona]

[Text] Chile, Argentina, Brazil, and Uruguay have agreed to submit a joint proposal to the Japanese Government, urging it to find an alternative to the Cape Horn route around Latin America for the vessel "Akatsuki Maru" [name as published] that will carry plutonium oxide.

Foreign Minister Enrique Silva Cimma stated yesterday that, although the route has yet to be confirmed, this vessel will carry this extremely toxic chemical element from France to some Japanese port later this year.

The agreement was reached among the four countries during a meeting in Buenos Aires on 6 October. Chile was represented at this meeting by Ambassador Jorge Berguno, the special policy director.

Foreign Minister Silva Cimma said that the "path to be followed" in this case was studied in Argentina. He said: "Chilean public opinion is alarmed because a vessel carrying highly risky material may pass near Chile."

Silva Cimma noted that the Foreign Ministry, the Chilean Navy, and the Chilean Nuclear Energy Commission on 6 October sent the Chamber of Deputies a full report on the coordination by the Foreign Ministry, the Chilean Navy, and the Chilean Nuclear Energy Commission over this problem.

URUGUAY

Nuclear Energy Agreement With Canada Shelved

PY0910204692 Montevideo BUSQUEDA
in Spanish 2 Oct 92 p 47

[Text] The Chamber of Deputies has decided to file a nuclear energy cooperation agreement reached with Canada after an intense environmental mobilization was staged to reject the alleged installation of a nuclear plant agreed upon in the agreement.

The issue was excluded from the congressional agenda after a meeting held 10 days ago between members of the Housing, Land Use Planning, and Environment; Industry and Energy; Science and Technology; and International Affairs Commissions with the only opposition coming from the Herreraist faction congressmen.

The agreement promoted nuclear energy cooperation "with peaceful purposes," but the deputies resorted to a restrictive clause to prevent an interpretation that might hint at approval of the installation of a nuclear plant. This article did not calm down Paso de los Toros residents, however. They promoted intense nationwide protests because they felt threatened by the possible installation of a reactor nearby.

These actions pressured the Chamber of Deputies, which on 18 August excluded the matter from the plenum agenda and sent it back to the commissions for analysis. The agreement was finally filed.

EGYPT

New 'Experimental Reactor' Operating in Anshas*NC1110162092 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic
29 Sep 92 p 1*

[Report by 'Adil Sabri]

[Text] The Egyptian Nuclear Energy Authority has started operating their new experimental 20-megawatt nuclear reactor in Anshas. Built by Egyptian and Argentine experts, the reactor will be used for training workers at the Nuclear Energy Authority and in nuclear plants to operate and maintain nuclear reactors. It will also be used to produce the radioisotopes needed for industrial and agricultural projects, medical research, sterilizing tools, and digging oilfields.

Electricity Minister Engineer Mahir Abazah is making contacts with the IAEA in Vienna and German nuclear authorities to set up a furnace for the safe disposal of nuclear waste at sealed underground sites.

The old Egyptian reactor was built by Soviet experts in the 60's.

INDIA

French Role in Regional Nuclear Issues Eyed*BK1410040792 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English
3 Oct 92 p 8*

[Editorial: "The Nuclear Dialogue"]

[Text] France is preparing itself for direct involvement in the vexed nuclear issue in South Asia. This has become obvious after the Prime Minister, Mr P.V. Narasimha Rao's three-day visit to Paris. His French sojourn is to be followed by the visits of the French ministers of Industry, Defence and Foreign Affairs to India in the next few months to continue the discussions on the nuclear as well as other issues held by Mr Rao. So far, only the U.S., among the nuclear weapons-powers, has actively pursued the goal of non-proliferation in the region as was shown by its encouragement to Pakistan in taking a formal initiative to propose a conference between India, Pakistan, the U.S., Russia and China for this purpose. India's response has been to engage in a dialogue with the U.S. Its recent willingness to abide by the Non-Proliferation Treaty [NPT] is only one reason why France is now clearly interested in associating itself with the American effort to get India and Pakistan to accept mutual de-nuclearisation. The more important reason, as India sees it, is that France is not yet ready to agree to keep up the supply of enriched uranium for the Tarapur Atomic Power Station beyond 1993 when the Indo-French contract relating to it is due to expire. Does this give France a golden opportunity to twist India's arms so that it gives up its principled objections to the NPT as it now stands?

It is unlikely that the French look at the problem in such simplistic terms. They cannot reject out of hand the Indian contention that the NPT discriminates against developing countries like India and so needs to be revised suitably when it comes up for a review in 1995. The process for such a review actually starts in 1993. The case for at least a provisional continuation of the French supply of uranium until the completion of the review exercise is, therefore, clear. Such an arrangement cannot possibly deliver any great setback, even from the Western standpoint, to the non-proliferation objective. French diplomacy has much to its credit in resolving formidable-looking problems. The forthcoming talks between the Indian government and the French ministers will show whether there has been any serious erosion of this traditional competence in handling delicate issues.

The needs of the French nuclear industry may also acquire relevance when the French dignitaries visit India for exploring the prospects of strengthening economic ties for mutual benefit. This industry has made Asia a main growth target. South-East Asia was estimated to account for about 58 percent of the total export sales (valued at four billion francs) of Cogema, the nuclear fuels group, in 1991. The French are certainly aware of the great importance India attaches to stepping up its nuclear power production. They must, therefore, be expected to show due appreciation as much of India's developmental imperatives as of its genuine security apprehensions. It will serve no purpose if the non-proliferation goal is seen in complete isolation from these factors.

Former Army Chief Urges 'Aggressive' Nuclear Plan*BK1310084592 Delhi PATRIOT in English
26 Sep 92 p 5*

[Text] Former Chief of Army Staff Gen [General] K. Sundarji on Friday [25 September] prescribed an aggressive nuclear policy for India as deterrent to possible U.S. bullying in the next two decades.

The technological thrust of India's policy should be to devise counter measures to the global protection system which the U.S. is currently developing, Gen Sundarji said, delivering the 1992 national security lecture.

India, Gen Sundarji said, must wholeheartedly support Pakistan's right to develop and deploy a minimum nuclear deterrent and the two countries should there technologies to counter possible racist aggression from the West. [sentence as published]

At the domestic level, the government should take all major political parties into confidence on the country's nuclear preparedness so as to arrive at a broad consensus.

The next step would be to initiate a public debate on all aspects of the issue and make it the bulwark against any

"ill-conceived U.S. plan of pressurising or bullying India or the region", the general said.

At the foreign policy level India should stop being defensive about not signing the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and stop repeating old arguments, the general advised.

India could go ahead and sign the NPT when the U.S. finally decides to adopt a safe, sensible and statesman-like course to its own nuclear disarmament.

Change in Nuclear Nonproliferation Policy Denied

BK1610114792 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English 1600 GMT 15 Oct 92

[Text] There is no change in India's stand on the issue of nuclear nonproliferation. An official spokesman in New Delhi denied reports that India may agree to inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency of its future nuclear units. He recalled the prime minister's statement at the Security Council saying nonproliferation regime must be universal, comprehensive, and nondiscriminatory.

Paper Notes Problems Faced by Nuclear Industry

BK1310090192 Delhi PATRIOT in English 22 Sep 92 p 5

[Text] Bombay, Sept 21 (UNI)—The Indian nuclear industry is at the crossroads with the government considering opening up the hitherto top secret industry to the joint sector to augment power generation.

According to official estimates, since commencement of operations the industry's cumulative power generation from eight nuclear stations in the country exceeded 74,709 million units till December, 1991. Yet, the total installed capacity of 1,530 mw falls far short of the targetted 10,000 mw by the year 2000. It is planned to increase substantially the installed capacity by another 5,760 mw but the allocation for this purpose has to be drastically reduced, mainly due to paucity of funds.

Claiming that Indian scientists have translated Homi Bhabha's vision to make India a member of the exclusive nuclear club, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) director R. Chidambaram said one of the earliest decisions taken by the Indian Atomic Energy Commission was to build a research reactor at Trombay which had helped the country gain experience and confidence in handling nuclear reactors. Besides, a research reactor was an ideal facility to provide neutron beams for carrying out research in basic science as well, he said.

The Apsara, Cirus and Dhruva reactors at BARC had operated satisfactorily during 1991-92 and more than 2,000 samples were irradiated for isotope production.

BARC had laboratories for carrying out research in the fields of physics, chemistry, biology, agriculture, medicine, food technology, isotope technology, and nuclear engineering metallurgy which could be exploited by the joint sector.

Dr Chidambaram said the Indian industry had to cooperate with the nuclear industry by producing quality equipment to ensure that safety hazards were eliminated.

The work done at Dhruva had enabled production of radioactive isotopes of high specific activity for use in industry. Dhruva had significantly augmented the radioisotope production capacity of the nation and a number of new isotopes for use in medicine could be produced, he said. The nuclear scientists opined that export of nuclear knowhow to set up power in Third World countries was still a distant dream, however, as the installed capacity targets in the country were yet to be met.

An order for a triple axis neutron spectrometer received from the International Atomic Energy Agency for supply to Bagladesh was completed last year, Vietnam had also evinced keen interest in importing nuclear knowhow, he said.

The gross nuclear power generation in 1991-92 was estimated at about 5,500 million units. The generation in 1991 was less compared to the preceding year, mainly due to the outages taken for maintenance and mandatory in-service inspection jobs.

The liquid and gaseous radioactive releases from all nuclear stations were well below permissible levels and the limits prescribed by the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) according to the Department of Atomic Energy's (DAE) annual report. The nuclear power corporation earned a net profit of Rs [rupees] 74.32 crore in 1990-91, a sum of Rs 547 crore was raised from the capital market for investment in new projects. The 220 mw Kakrapar Atomic Power Project in Gujarat attained criticality this month while the Narora atomic power station's unit two was synchronised to the national grid on January 5, 1992.

Another 220 mw unit is planned at Kakrapar in addition to six 220 mw units at Kaiga, two 220 mw and four 500 mw units at Rajasthan, two 500 mw units at Tarapur and two 1000 mw units at Kudandulam totalling 7,200 mw.

DAE and AERB sources said that except for maintenance and outages, the nuclear power stations were running satisfactorily. In Rajasthan, unit one was working half to its installed capacity of 200 mw due to a defective end shield. The regulatory board had restricted operation of the unit beyond 100 mw since 1987, consequent on the repair of the south-end shield.

In 1991-92, the Madras atomic power station Pressurised Heavy Water Reactor (PHWR) unit one was

rehabilitated due to failure of the main generator transformer. An additional third moderator heat exchanger was commissioned at this unit.

At Narora, based on operational experience of PHWRs, both the units had been rated to 220 mw each. The unit had to take relatively longer outages for implementing certain safety related improvements such as addition of a third emergency diesel generator set and some improvements in the emergency core cooling system.

The transmission system for power evacuation from Kakrapar was under execution through the Gujarat Electricity Board, along with commissioning of two 220 kv transmission lines.

At Kaiga, construction activities were on in full swing and based on the present status of civil construction works, the two units were expected to achieve criticality in 1996.

For Rajasthan's project three and four, award work for natural draft cooling towers was in progress while bids were under evaluation for induced draft cooling towers. Quarters, dispensary, school, hospital and sheds had come up. The tender for nuclear piping had been floated and work on at least 17 packages had been awarded.

Commentary on Progress in Nuclear Energy Program

BK0310123492 Delhi All India Radio General Overseas Service in English 1010 GMT 3 Oct 92

[Commentary by Om Narayanan]

[Text] India entered the field of nuclear technology over four decades ago when it was just a fledging science. Today, the country has achieved technical competence in all stages of the nuclear fuel cycle from exploration of atomic minerals to waste management. Indigenization and self-reliance in nuclear technology and development of commensurate materials and human resources have been the hallmark of our atomic energy program. Now, India is amongst the few countries in the world which have the capability of designing, constructing, and operating nuclear reactors—be it for electric power generation or for carrying out research in the field of atomic energy. In addition to direct benefits to the nation in terms of power generation, use of radio isotopes in industry, medicine, and agriculture has contributed significantly to the overall upgradation of the industry. In fact, India being the only developing country which has mastered all activities of the nuclear program.

The Indian nuclear power program launched in 1954 envisaged a three-stage development of nuclear power generation from the country's uranium and thorium resources. The first stage program consisted of setting up

of pressurized heavy water reactors. During the second stage, effective utilization of plutonium in Fast Breeder Reactors [FBR's] was proposed to provide the key before utilization of country's uranium resources and prepared the way for the long term utilization of the more abundant thorium reserves. During the later part of the program, thorium was used as blanket material in FBR's to generate U-233, whereas the third stage program is based on U-233 fueled-reactor systems. The main thrust of the research and development effort is directed toward long-term benefits rather than on short-term gains.

The long-term nuclear power program envisages setting up an installed capacity of 10,000 mw during the first phase. Nuclear Power Corporation of India has eight operating nuclear power reactors—two each at Tarapur, Maharashtra; (Rawatbhata), Rajasthan; Kalpakkam, Tamil Nadu; and at Narora, Uttar Pradesh. Their total installed capacity is 1,500 mw. Six more reactors each of 220 mw are under construction—two each at Kakrapar, Gujarat; Kaiga, Karnataka; and (Rawatbhata).

In all spheres of nuclear science and technology, the country has been progressively attaining self-reliance, while the first atomic power station at Tarapur was designed, constructed, and commissioned by a U.S. company on a turnkey basis. For the fourth atomic power station at Narora, the design was developed and standardized indigenously. Special feature of it is that it has been developed to suit the seismic requirements of the site. The first heavy water production plant was set up in 1962 at Nangal. Subsequently, five more plants were set up at Baroda, Tuticorin, Kota, Talcher, and Thal. The plants at Kota and (Manuguru) use indigenously-developed hydrogen sulphide steam-based technology. Having successfully undertaken the indigenization of the nuclear energy and applied area program, today we are in a position to export nuclear technology isotopes and sophisticated instrumentation. The Bhabha Atomic Research Center at Trombay, Maharashtra; the Indira Gandhi Center for Atomic Research at Kalpakkam, Tamil Nadu; the variable energy cyclotron center at Calcutta, West Bengal; and the Center for Advanced Technology at Indore, Madhya Pradesh; are the focal points of research and development in nuclear science and other frontline areas.

While planning and implementing atomic energy program, special emphasis has been placed on social responsibilities toward community welfare, environmental protection, employment and training opportunities, development of Indian industries and international cooperation. Thus, the atomic energy program has been forging ahead keeping up with the international standards and evolving the technology best suited to the Indian conditions.

IRAN

U.S. Report on N-Arms Acquisition Rejected

LD1410215892 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran in English 1930 GMT 14 Oct 92

[Text] The Islamic Republic of Iran's mission at the UN has described the American daily WASHINGTON POST's report, in which it is claimed that Iran is trying to get nuclear weapons, as totally false and has strongly rejected it.

The statement released in this connection says: The anti-revolutionary grouplet of Monafeqin based inside Iraq is the source of the false report which is totally unfounded.

The statement further says that as a signatory of the nuclear non-proliferation treaty, Iran neither possesses any nuclear weapons or weapons of mass destruction, nor does it want to acquire them.

The statement stresses that Iran's nuclear research program is of non-military nature and is sponsoring peaceful purposes.

Government Supports UN Ban on Chemical Weapons

*LD1510104192 Tehran IRNA in English
0920 GMT 15 Oct 92*

[Text] New York, Oct. 15, IRNA—Despite its objections to some articles of the convention on prohibition of chemical weapons, Iran supports the U.N. General Assembly resolution calling on governments to confirm and sign it, according to Iran's permanent envoy here Wednesday.

Kamal Kharrazi said that Iran joined the rank of supporters of the resolution because of "our heartfelt wish for annihilation of chemical weapons."

Kharrazi made the remarks when elaborating on Iran's views on international security and disarmament at the first committee of the General Assembly. He said that no country in the world would be as pleased with the prohibition of production, stockpiling and deployment of chemical weapons through implementation of this convention as the Iranian nation which he said was itself a victim of chemical weapons. He expressed hope that the shortcomings of the convention would be overcome when it is prepared for implementation.

The General Assembly is to approve the convention on prohibition of chemical weapons, ratified recently after several years of debates at the Geneva conference on disarmament, this year and then a commission is to be set up at The Hague to work out the new convention's implementation. Disarmament experts believe that the commission's procedure would last for a minimum period of two years.

On Iran's criticism of some articles of the convention, Kharrazi said that its definition for major armaments

and those of secondary importance was not comprehensive adding that its implementation would not be without problems. This will also create problems in inspection field which is a vital part of the convention. He said that according to the convention, Asia, the largest continent in the world with 42 countries, has a 10 percent share of the executive council but Europe 22 percent.

The convention also fails to determine how the discriminatory limitations on trade of chemicals should be settled, said Kharrazi calling on the developed countries to remove the present obstacles on the way of transfer of technology and chemicals to other countries for peaceful use.

Turning to nuclear disarmament he said that this contributes a great deal to establishment of regional peace especially in the Middle East.

Iran believes that nuclear weapons do not safeguard the national security of countries and on this basis the Islamic Republic of Iran is committed to its undertakings on non-proliferation of atomic arms, he said. He added that the last year's inspection by experts of the International Atomic Energy Agency of Iranian nuclear installations confirms Iran's commitment.

Diplomatic Source Confirms Arms Supply to Hizballah

*PM0610095292 London SAWT AL-KUWAYT
AL-DUWALI in Arabic 3 Oct 92 pp 1, 6*

[Unattributed report: "Sagger Missiles and Mini Katyushas From Iran to Hizballah in Lebanon"]

[Excerpt] London, SAWT AL-KUWAYT—A prominent Iranian diplomatic source has confirmed that Hizballah received huge military shipments from Iran in September. The source, who is in charge of Lebanon's and Syria's affairs at the Iranian Foreign Ministry, said that these shipments did not pass through Syrian territory. He pointed out that Iran used its own means to deliver them to Hizballah fighters.

SAWT AL-KUWAYT has learned that the new shipments include for the first time Sagger antitank missiles, which Iran—with Korean experts' assistance—has started to manufacture in the missiles production complex in Esfahan. They also include Malituka [transliterated] missiles, which are carried on the shoulder, and "108-mm Mini Katyusha" missile launchers, which are also produced by Iran. [passage omitted]

Vice President Opens Laser Research Lab

*LD1310235192 Tehran IRIB Television First Program
Network in Persian 1530 GMT 13 Oct 92*

[Excerpt] In a ceremony today, First Vice President Habibi opened the Ibn-e Heysam research and laboratory complex attached to the Laser Research Center of the Iranian Atomic Energy Organization. The complex is now officially operational.

At the ceremony the head of the Laser Research Center of the Iranian Atomic Energy Organization noted that the establishment of a semiconductors branch at the center has enabled the Islamic Republic of Iran to manufacture semiconductor lasers and detectors for the first time. He said the technology would bring about great development in the field of semiconductor know-how in our country, with wide applications in telecommunications and industries. [passage omitted]

IRAQ

Government Protests UN Inspection Team Visit

NC1110134092 Paris AFP in English
1237 GMT 11 Oct 92

[Report by Jean-Eudes Barbier]

[Text] Manama, Oct 11 (AFP)—The latest U.N. weapons mission to Baghdad will arrive there Friday as planned despite Iraqi calls for a postponement until after the U.S. presidential election, team leader Nikita Smidovich said Sunday.

Baghdad last Friday requested the postponement until after the November 3 election, a move rejected by the special U.N. commission disarming Iraqi under Gulf war ceasefire resolutions.

Smidovich, a Russian, said on his arrival at regional U.N. headquarters here: "We do not see why this operation should be postponed and of course we are not influenced by political events outside of the mandate of the special commission."

Baghdad said it feared the mission would be exploited by the Bush administration in the run-up to the election.

"I have no information suggesting that the team would not be allowed to conduct this inspection in Iraq," Smidovich said, stressing that Iraq was also obliged under U.N. Gulf war ceasefire resolutions to protect team members.

The 42-member team will visit "declared and undeclared sites" in and outside Baghdad during the two-week mission and he did not rule out the possibility that the team would demand access to government ministries.

President Saddam Husayn last week described the weapons inspectors as "stray dogs", and U.N. personnel there have suffered frequent harassment.

On Monday an Iraqi doused three U.N. employees in Baghdad with diesel in the second such attack in as many days.

Smidovich said the team would not be looking for a "confrontation" with Iraq, but repeated that it was obliged to "cooperate" with the team, comprising ballistics and chemical weapons inspectors and eight logistics personnel.

"We are under the Security Council mandate and Iraq must fulfill its obligation," he stressed.

Iraq must comply with ceasefire resolutions calling on it to destroy chemical, bacteriological and nuclear weapons.

ISRAEL

Popeye Missile, Farnborough Air Show Viewed

92AE0626Z Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT (Financial Supplement) in Hebrew 25 Aug 92 p 12

[Article by Amos Regev]

[Text] The Farnborough Air Show will open on 6 September. The show, which has been held the past two years at London's south-west airport, is the Paris (Laborgia) air exhibition's great rival. Initially, it was intended to showcase the flower of the British aircraft industry. Over the years, however, and with the industry's decline, the fair has become international in every respect—from aircraft to accessories and weapons systems.

Israel is a regular at the Laborgia exhibition but has not put anything on display at Farnborough since the Yom Kippur War. Instead, it has been content to send a team of experts. This year, we will be there, too. "Given the changes around the world and the Middle East, and the altered relations with us, it is very important for Israel to take part in the fair," says Brigadier General Yom-Tov Tamir, who serves as IDF attache and the Defense Ministry's representative in Britain. "We used to think that participation would be a waste of money," says Tamir, "but the atmosphere is different this time. We have the chance to sell not just for local needs but to representatives from all over the world who will be here. It is also a good opportunity to make contacts, send out feelers, and start cooperative ventures."

At Farnborough 1992, the political changes by which former Soviet companies are now searching for western partners will meet the economic slump, which is being felt in stiffer competition among manufacturers—beginning with a shrinking market for war planes and ending with a recession-stricken market for passenger aircraft.

Fewer exhibitors will participate in the fair this year, 650 compared to 800 two years ago. But many more countries are making an appearance. FLIGHT, the British aviation weekly, predicts that this year's attraction will be the massive participation of companies and manufacturers from Russia and Ukraine. At the same time, advanced models of former Soviet planes will be unveiled. Eastern producers will be looking to sell their products unfettered by any political restrictions and will make special efforts to find western partners for various projects.

For example, the "Yakovlev" factory, which turned out the "Yak" line of aircraft, will display for the first time a war plane, the Yak-141, which takes off from short runways and makes vertical landings. This plane, which

NATO dubbed the "Freestyle," is to replace the Yak-38, known as the "Frog," which is still to be found on Russian aircraft carriers. The new "Yak" is a supersonic plane and, therefore, more advanced than its counterpart in the west, the British "Harrier." The Yakovlev factory is seeking foreign investors for this project.

The manufacturers of MiG planes will display the MiG M-29, an advanced model of the familiar MiG 29. The new model features a "fly by wire" system and is judged one of the best combat planes in the world.

Manufacturers of the "Sukhoi" will exhibit a two-seat training version of the Sukhoi-27, which is considered the best Soviet interceptor. This is the model that created a sensation when it performed at the Paris aviation exhibition last year.

The "Kamov" helicopter factory will present the KA-50 "Hokum," a tank-hunter helicopter along the lines, for example, of the "Cobra." The factory is offering a model of the "Hokum" equipped with western systems; the British Air Force is considering buying 130 of these antitank helicopters.

The makers of the "Tupolov" passenger plane will display an improved model of the TU-204, which is comparable to the Boeing 757. Its new features include British Rolls Royce engines. In some ways, the project brings to mind the idea for an Israel-Soviet plane broached two years ago: a Russian fuselage with western engines and technology.

Western Europe, too, has been developing aircraft. The difficulties of the EFA (the European fighter plane), from which Germany has withdrawn, have set back plans for equipping the European air forces. A number of candidates will rise for this "dream opportunity": The Swedish "Griffin" (which was once considered a European competitor to our "Lavi" before we discontinued it); the French "Rafael"; and, of course, the excellent, well-known, and expensive American F-16 and F-18.

It can be expected that all these contestants will fly in the skies above Farnborough to demonstrate their breath-taking abilities in an attempt to capture the attention of prospective buyers.

Last but not least (especially for someone who is managing a trip abroad)—"ordinary" passenger planes. First off, there will be the Airbus-340, the new four-engine model of the European consortium. This plane is competing with long, huge, wide-body American Boeings and McDonnell-Douglasses. The Airbus's marketers will certainly be compelled to summon all their talents to make curious customers forget the crash in Nepal some weeks ago (an Airbus, unluckily for them). In addition to the planes themselves, a variety of avionic systems, aerial arms, communications equipment, radars, engines, and other aviation related products will be on display at the fair.

[Box, p 13]

Two defense industries in two booths—that is the entire Israeli presence at the Farnborough aviation fair. The lucky products are Rafa'el's "Popeye" air-to-ground missile and metal flight fittings made by "As'ot Ashqelon," a subsidiary of Israel Military Industries. In recent years, Israel has invested its marketing effort in the Laborgia competition fair in France. This year, Rafa'el decided to make an effort to bring to Britain the product that it thinks the British themselves are likely to buy. Of course, if the opportunity arises, the "Popeye" will be sold to other states as well. "We are going for broke," they are saying at the arms development authority. The expenses of exhibition are not peanuts and must be a strain given the agency's grim financial situation. The decision to go, however, was a wise one. Rafa'el today has a weapons system of the type many people are talking about but which few manufacturers, if any, can supply "off the shelf."

What, actually, is the "Popeye?" It is an air-to-ground missile launched towards its target on a course determined in advance. While in flight, it receives orders from the plane's weapons systems operator. On a small screen, the weapons operator (on a twin-seat war plane, this is the navigator's assignment) observes a clear picture of the target as the missile approaches. Using a joystick, he makes steering corrections until the missile strikes home with the accuracy of a marksman's rifle.

The maximum range of the missile is 100 km, it is 4.7 meters long and its warhead—the explosive and the detonator apparatus—weighs 350 kg. So far, \$180 million worth of "Popeye" missiles have been sold. According to foreign reports, Britain, learning the main lesson of the Gulf War, is now looking for an air-to-ground missile for its air force. "We think that the market for the 'Popeye' is potentially a large one and are making an effort to give it maximal exposure," says Noah Shahar, Rafa'el's spokesman.

The fact that the Americans have acquired "Popeyes" in not-significant numbers is supposed to grease the way for sales. American officers have praised the missile's capabilities. "You can shoot the 'Popeye' through the window of a house and hit your target. This thing's accuracy is amazing," says an officer of the American Strategic Air Command. Anyone who really thinks that the way to knock out his enemy is to fire a missile through the window of his house will have to part with \$780,000 for the opportunity; that, according to foreign sources, is the retail price of the "Popeye."

The "Popeye" was an attraction at the Paris exhibition last year. Everyone who was anyone—sophisticated Americans, African air force commanders, and South American generals—came to gaze at the Israeli wonder. All of them would like such an accurate weapon and all of them, at a minimum, would like to know what their enemies know about it.

A demonstration tape showing the launch of a "Popeye" towards a target made of wood and cardboard was run on a video player dozens of times at the Paris fair. Everyone was deeply impressed by how the missile went through the window of a house. Because of the missile's weight and size, it can be loaded on large planes, such as the enormous American B-52 strategic bombers, or, alternatively, on war planes such as the "Phantom." FLIGHT weekly contends that Rafa'el is now developing a smaller model (which the Americans call "Have-Lite" as though it were a new diet drink) for use by air forces equipped with lighter planes.

And, as always, customers will be surrounded by all the amenities designed to make their stay a pleasant one: magnificent hospitality rooms with well-stocked bars, superb food, luxurious limousines, and even helicopters serving as a taxi service.

JORDAN

Document Reveals Iraqi Uranium Deal

PM0810090892 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT
in Arabic 7 Oct 92 p 1

[Unattributed report: "New Document in Jordanian Deputies' Trial; Iraqi Uranium for Khartoum and Arms From North Korea"]

[Text] Nicosia, exclusive to AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT—One of the public prosecutor's new documents in the case involving the two deputies Layth Shubaylat and Ya'qub Qirrish has revealed notes recorded by the former on a piece of paper which included serious indications. They include: Shipping uranium from Baghdad to Khartoum, concluding a deal for arms from North Korea, and a medal for Saddam Husayn decorated with the emerald stolen from Imam 'Ali's tomb. This is in addition to other notes about 'Udayy Saddam Husayn's partners in Amman and expenditure by Nizar Hamdun in the Jordanian capital.

The notes, a copy of which AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT has obtained, included the names and telephone numbers of people with whom Shubaylat seems to have had links. Some of them live in non-Arab capitals. The notes also include other points, some of which are as follows:

- Immediate travel arrangements through 'Udayy Saddam;
- Arms deal in Amman 16 October from North Korea;
- Truck loaded with furniture of Sudanese Embassy in Baghdad with a Sudanese driver was loaded with uranium, barrels to Khartoum on 16 January 1992;
- Purchase Mercedes for 'Udayy.

PAKISTAN

Premier Says Defense Ties With PRC To Continue

BK1110115192 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network
in English 1100 GMT 11 Oct 92

[Text] The prime minister, Mr. Mohammad Nawaz Sharif, who returned to Islamabad this afternoon after a five-day official visit to China, said that he is very pleased and satisfied with the results of his visit to China. Talking to the media team on board, which accompanied him to China, the prime minister said that various areas of cooperation in the defense field were discussed and the two sides decided to continue their cooperation in the mutual interest of both countries.

Replying to a question on Kashmir, he said that the Chinese leadership stands by the viewpoint of Pakistan on Kashmir and wants a political solution of the dispute as soon as possible. The prime minister said that he was grateful to the Chinese leadership for supporting the Pakistan's proposal to make South Asia a nuclear-free zone through a conference of five nations which Pakistan had mooted some time ago. Mr. Mohammad Nawaz Sharif added that there was complete identity of views between the two countries on all international issues.

Reports on CIS Summit Held in Bishkek

Agenda Previewed

OW0810202192 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1957 GMT 8 Oct 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Kazakhstan's Defence Minister Sagadat Nurmuhamedov has told IF [INTERFAX] that the agenda of the Bishkek CIS summit opening on Friday includes three military questions—the status of the CIS allied command, the concept of collective security and information on strategic forces. The Defence Minister believes there is the need to make a fundamental decision on the strategic forces. Nurmuhamedov said that Kazakhstan and Russia agreed on all the three items to be discussed.

The Defence Minister of Belarus, Colonel-General Pavel Kozlovskiy has told IF that his republic, too, was committed to the idea of a nuclear-free status and Russia's recognition of its jurisdiction over the strategic forces deployed in Byelarus. General Kozlovskiy said that of the four nuclear republics of the USSR Russia alone must retain them. On Friday Belarus is going to confirm this position at the Bishkek summit conference, its Defence Minister said.

Ukraine's Kravchuk Arrives

OW0810202892 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1956 GMT 8 Oct 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk has said that Ukraine is "fully satisfied with the current status of the nuclear forces". "We are not reaching for the nuclear button", Kravchuk said in an interview upon his arrival in Bishkek on October 8. "It is quite for Ukraine to have the right to block the launch of strategic missiles from its territory".

Kravchuk believes that any changes to the status of strategic nuclear forces will "do no good", but can only complicate the solution of the main problem—the ratification of the strategic arms reduction treaty.

President Nursultan Nazarbayev, of Kazakhstan, has told IF [INTERFAX] that the "CIS nuclear button was in reliable hands". He said that the nuclear forces in the territory of Kazakhstan would "under the concluded agreements be withdrawn from there". President Nazarbayev did not specify deadlines for their withdrawal, however.

Shaposhnikov To Assume Command

OW0910182092 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1720 GMT 09 Oct 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov, the CIS Joint Armed Forces commander-in-chief, reported on Friday [9 October] at a press conference in Bishkek that he would take over the functions of the CIS strategic forces commander due to the retirement of General Maksimov because of his age. Shaposhnikov also said that the CIS states had begun working out bilateral agreements on the status of nuclear forces. According to Marshall, Russia has already concluded such an agreement with Belarus and is ready to sign an analogical document with Kazakhstan; an appropriate agreement with Ukraine is underway. Shaposhnikov pointed out that the issue on strategic nuclear forces is to be solved in a month.

Shaposhnikov expressed the fundamental position of the CIS chief command according to which the Russian forces would not be drawn to settle armed conflicts on the territory of the Commonwealth. They would be used solely to guard strategic sites in the CIS.

Russia Proposed Heir of Soviet N-Arms

OW1210204892 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1930 GMT 12 Oct 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] CIS CinC Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov has admitted that "the situation in the CIS strategic forces, in fact, remained the same even after the Bishkek meeting", except for the resignation of the former CIS strategic forces CinC, Yuriy Maksimov whose duties have been transferred to Marshal Shaposhnikov.

Speaking today at a press conference in Moscow, Shaposhnikov said that he had proposed to the leaders of the four CIS states having nuclear weapons within their territories to make Russia the only heir of the Soviet nuclear weapons.

Shaposhnikov believes that the nuclear states' leaders should promote the ratification of agreements on the strategic forces in the parliaments, the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and measures to foster their countries' nuclear-free status (except for Russia). At the same time, the CinC asked the leaders to sign bilateral agreements (Russian-Belarusian, Russian-Kazakh, Russian-Ukrainian), setting deadlines for the withdrawal and elimination of nuclear arms. "I was understood by Russia, Belarus, and Kazakhstan, and by Ukraine, too, but not quite", Shaposhnikov said.

Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov pointed to Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk's understanding of the necessity to maintain closer cooperation with the CIS military command in the safe keeping of nuclear arms. Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov also asked Leonid Kravchuk to refrain from any steps to "perfect the administrative control" of the CIS strategic forces in Ukraine.

Russia, Ukraine Deadlocked

NC0910142692 Paris AFP in English 1353 GMT 9 Oct 92

[Text] Bishkek, Oct 9 (AFP)—CIS leaders ended a one-day summit here after failing to reach a decision on control over nuclear forces and with a pledge to provide war-torn Tajikistan with humanitarian aid.

Presidents Askar Akayev of Kyrgyzstan, Levon Ter-Petrosyan of Armenia and other CIS officials told a news conference that the thorny issue of control over nuclear forces would be solved on a bilateral basis between Ukraine and Russia.

Ukraine is refusing to hand over full control over strategic forces on its territory to a joint-command of the Commonwealth of Independent States.

Leaders of the 10-nation alliance—Georgia and Azerbaijan have not ratified the CIS membership treaty—also decided to set up a "conciliatory commission" on the conflict in southern Tajikistan to be led by Kyrgyzstan Vice-President Felix Kulov. But the presidents failed to agree on the deployment of CIS peacekeeping forces in Tajikistan and said that any decision to send these forces must first be approved by the Tajik parliament.

Six states including Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan agreed to set up a payment union between the former republics to solve the problem of unpaid debts between enterprises. But they could not agree on key areas of economic cooperation on monetary policy while a proposed CIS economic council was blocked by Ukraine.

The Bishkek summit, the seventh since the creation of the CIS last December, was among the least productive, observers said.

Russia's Grachev Comments

PM1410173792 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
15 Oct 92 Morning Edition p 1

[Report by Nikolay Burbyga: "Pavel Grachev: Russian Nuclear Missiles Are Not Aimed at Any Specific Targets, Just in a General Direction"]

[Excerpt] On 13 October Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev met in his office with Soviet and foreign journalists.

Military Results of the Bishkek Meeting

According to the Russian defense minister, one of the chief results of the Bishkek meeting was the definition of the functions of strategic nuclear weapons and the mechanisms controlling them.

Who will control the strategic nuclear forces? The Russian president and Marshal of Aviation Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov, commander in chief of the CIS Joint Armed Forces, as before. Although the Bishkek meeting did study the question of transferring the Ukrainian "nuclear button" to a third person—the Russian defense minister. But the matter was not finally decided.

The missiles on the territories of Ukraine, Belarus, and Kazakhstan have now been taken off alert duty and put in reserve. According to Pavel Grachev, they can only be used with the consent of the presidents of those states for a follow-up [posleduyushchiy] nuclear strike. But the Russian minister does not believe that this eventuality is possible.

As for the territory of the Russian Federation, some of the strategic missiles have already been stood down, while those that are on alert duty have no specific targets. They are just aimed in a general direction, no more than that.

Russia Is Ready to Ban Nuclear Explosions Altogether

As is known, the Russian unilateral moratorium on nuclear tests at the Novaya Zemlya site expires this year. But there has been no decision yet on resuming tests. The defense minister intends to propose a resumption of nuclear explosions. Although they will not be conducted in the same quantity as before; there will be far fewer. This decision is prompted by the fact that, aside from France, other leading nuclear powers did not join the moratorium. But if the United States were to join the moratorium, Russia would prolong its "nuclear silence."

The military contingent on the island of Novaya Zemlya will be cut in the very near future. Some radiotechnical companies, two antiaircraft missile divisions, and two air force squadrons will be moved to the mainland. [passage omitted]

Russian Official Comments

PM1210123792 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
10 Oct 92 Morning Edition pp 1-2

[Report by Vladimir Ardayev, Vasily Kononenko, and Aleksandr Ryabushkin: "Serious Disagreements Avoided in Bishkek: CIS Heads of State and Government Hold Meeting in Bishkek 9 October"]

[Excerpts] Before every routine meeting of the CIS Council of Heads of State the classic question is asked: Will the commonwealth exist or not? On 9 October, the day the latest session of the CIS heads of state opens in Bishkek, this question loses its relevance. [passage omitted]

As A. Kotenkov, chief of the Russian President's State and Law Administration who took part in preparing the documents for the session, said in conversation with your IZVESTIYA correspondent, the Commonwealth seems to be entering a new phase in its existence. Three levels of relations within the CIS are emerging. First, Moldova and Azerbaijan, which have not ratified the agreement on accession to the CIS, may be regarded as being outside this formation. Second, there is a CIS nucleus of five states which signed the Collective Security Treaty in Tashkent in May this year. Third, the attitude of the independent states toward the problem of nuclear weapons is the litmus test whereby a rough list of members of a "strong" Commonwealth can be determined. The consultations on the eve of the meeting showed that there are no problems with Belarus here—it has acknowledged that all the nuclear forces stationed on its territory are Russian. There is complete understanding for this approach with Kazakhstan, too. As for Ukraine, L. Kravchuk said on arrival in Bishkek that the present status of the nuclear forces in Ukraine suits him. But, servicemen in the units servicing the nuclear forces are taking the Ukrainian oath and are fully accountable under Ukrainian laws. Meanwhile, the mandatory check of the state of the missile launchers is not being carried out because the specialists needed are all in Russia. If an "irregular situation" ["neshtatnaya situatsiya"] or something more complex occurs, who will be responsible for the consequences of a nuclear catastrophe? Russia is proposing that the nuclear missiles be taken off alert status and their warheads be stored on Ukrainian territory until the question of their transport to Russia for destruction is resolved. We are proposing compensation equivalent to the cost of the nuclear missile warheads, the chief of the State and Law Administration said. If this suggestion is adopted by the Ukrainian side, it will be the most acceptable and effective means of ensuring the nuclear safety of the Commonwealth and the world. [passage omitted]

Kyrgyz Leader on Joint Command

OW1110080992 Tokyo KYODO in English 0749 GMT
11 Oct 92

[Text] Bishkek, Oct. 11 KYODO—Kyrgyzstan's President Askar Akayev said Sunday [11 October] the joint command over former Soviet nuclear arsenals is likely to dissipate soon.

In an interview with KYODO NEWS SERVICE, Akayev said Yevgeny Shaposhnikov, commander-in-chief of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) joint forces, has formally proposed that Russia take over all former Soviet nuclear warheads.

Shaposhnikov made the proposal at a CIS summit meeting here Friday, Akayev said.

Kazakhstan and Belarus expressed their approval in principle and nonnuclear CIS member states followed suit with the aim of checking the spread of nuclear weapons, Akayev said.

But Ukraine reportedly voiced stiff opposition to the plan, saying it would be a violation of an earlier accord for the joint control of nuclear arsenals deployed in the CIS states.

Akayev said there will be bilateral negotiations between Russia and three other states of Ukraine, Kazakhstan and Belarus over transferring to Moscow's control the nuclear arsenals stored in the three other CIS states.

At a meeting of CIS defense ministers, held in Bishkek prior to the CIS summit, Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev proposed that Moscow control of all strategic nuclear weapons deployed in the four former Soviet republics of Russia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan and Belarus.

More of Differences

PM1410111992 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA
in Russian 14 Oct 92 p 1

[Article by Lieutenant Colonel Anatoliy Dokuchayev: "There Must Be No Misunderstandings on the Problem of Russia's Nuclear Legacy: Only One Place in the 'World Nuclear Club'—Russia's"]

[Text] Bishkek has again highlighted the question of the strategic nuclear weapons inherited from the USSR by four states: 80 percent of them by Russia, 10 percent by Ukraine, 6 percent by Kazakhstan, and 4 percent by Belarus. The results of the CIS heads of state meeting are now known. The leaders of some of the republics have set out their views on this problem, as has Marshal of Aviation Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov, commander in chief of the CIS Joint Armed Forces.

As is well known, the status of the strategic forces has changed significantly in a short period. On 21 December last year a compromise was reached by Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, and Kazakhstan. The agreement they signed specified that the nuclear weapons belonging to the joint strategic forces ensure the collective security of all the CIS members. On 30 December it was laid down that, prior to the complete elimination of the nuclear weapons stationed on Belarusian and Ukrainian territory, the decision on the need to use them is to be taken by the president of Russia with the agreement of the heads of the states parties to the agreement on the basis of special procedures. Belarus and Ukraine pledged to affiliate to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. Kazakhstan also subsequently announced its intention to become a non-nuclear state.

At the conference on aid to the states of the former Soviet Union held in Lisbon 23 May, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Russia, and Ukraine, plus the United States, signed a protocol to the START Treaty. This document requires Ukraine, Belarus, and Kazakhstan to affiliate to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. Formally speaking, the debate about the nuclear legacy is over: The Soviet Union's place in the "world nuclear club" has been taken

by one state—Russia. Moscow now bears full responsibility for nuclear safety. Legally speaking, the nuclear weapons become the “state property” of Russia.

That is also the position of the CIS Joint Armed Forces High Command, and was reaffirmed at a news conference by Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov. I want the nuclear weapons, he said, to be under Russian jurisdiction, control [kontrol], and management [upravleniye]. Prior to Bishkek the High Command did a lot of work to harmonize as much as possible the viewpoints of the four states’ leaderships with the positions enshrined in Lisbon. It is presumed that full control over all the nuclear weapons would be transferred to Russia after the conclusion of special bilateral agreements with Belarus, Kazakhstan, and Ukraine. It goes without saying that, even after these procedures, the strategic forces would continue to perform tasks in the interests of the whole CIS under dual control of the Russian Defense Ministry and the CIS Joint Armed Forces High Command.

Minsk stated its position most clearly. The status of the nuclear weapons stationed in Belarus is defined by the treaty between it and Russia on coordinating military activity and the agreement on the Strategic Forces temporarily stationed on the republic’s territory (both were signed 20 July 1992). They note, among other things, that the Strategic Forces pass to the jurisdiction of Russia and the operational subordination of the CIS Joint Armed Forces. They serve the interests of the Commonwealth. The documents stress that the two states’ military departments cooperate with the High Command on maintaining the combat readiness of troops and their nuclear security and supporting combat training and day-to-day activity.

The command and control system [sistema upravleniya] is an integral part of the corresponding system of the CIS Joint Armed Forces Strategic Forces and is not part of the command and control system of the Armed Forces of Belarus. The Russian Federation is responsible for observing the norms of environmental safety. Fixed-term servicemen are to be recruited to the units by drafting citizens from the two republics according to set quotas. It is envisaged that the “Belarusian” forces will be reduced by withdrawing them to Russian territory over a seven-year period, as in the START Treaty, according to a prearranged schedule.

Recently, Minsk has decided to tighten that schedule, however. After Bishkek, Supreme Soviet Chairman Shushkevich stated that units of the Strategic Forces may be withdrawn within two and a half years.

By all accounts, Alma-Ata is also close to concluding a similar agreement with Moscow. The relevant documents were prepared during talks 18-19 August between a Russian military delegation headed by Viktor Dubynin, chief of the General Staff, and the leadership of the Kazakhstan Defense Ministry.

But Kiev has a different approach to the nuclear weapons stationed on its territory. Since Lisbon, Kiev has repeatedly stated that it does not crave the nuclear button but must be sure that nuclear weapons will never be used from Ukrainian territory by decision of another state. Fine words, but last June the Ukrainian president issued a decree whereby all groupings of nuclear forces stationed in the republic were included in the Ukrainian Armed Forces. The Defense Ministry has begun creating a special management body—the Center for the Administrative Control of the Strategic Forces. This is a move toward the dual control of nuclear weapons, which sharply restricts the functions of the Strategic Forces command and directly breaches the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

Kiev, justifying its actions by saying that there cannot be foreign troops on the republic’s territory (a reference to a Supreme Soviet decision), has essentially eliminated Moscow from recruitment to the units, the selection and appointment of the command, and the solution of many other questions connected with the functioning of the strategic systems. Only operational leadership has been left to the command of the Strategic Forces. At the same time, Moscow is being asked to take responsibility for nuclear safety—that is, for the actions of Ukrainian specialists—which of course is unacceptable. The peoples of the Commonwealth can expect no good from this kind of “game,” it is just too dangerous.

There has been movement in Ukraine’s position recently. Thus, directly before the Bishkek meeting the High Command prepared a draft Protocol Memorandum on the CIS Joint Armed Forces Strategic Forces. It stressed that the combat control of the Strategic Forces will be exercised jointly by the CIS Joint Armed Forces High Command and the Russian Defense Ministry. At Ukraine’s request, this item was dropped from the document, however. Leonid Kravchuk noted that it was more appropriate to return to it after the Russo-Ukrainian talks on nuclear arms. The president promised that Kiev will not improve the nuclear weapons command and control system in the meantime.

As a result, a Protocol Decision was adopted in Bishkek whereby the heads of state relieved Army General Yuriy Maksimov of the duties of commander in connection with his retirement request. The duties of commander of the Strategic Forces have been entrusted to Marshal of Aviation Shaposhnikov. It was confirmed at the news conference that the nuclear button remains under the control of the High Command.

Therefore, Bishkek has not removed the nuclear question from the agenda for the Commonwealth’s peoples. The “club of four” still exists within the CIS. It will take considerable effort and mutual understanding to clear this matter up once and for all.

Commentary Notes Tilt Toward NPT Acceptance

*BK0910135592 Moscow Radio Moscow in Urdu
1000 GMT 8 Oct 92*

[Commentary by Vasant Georgiyev]

[Text] Pakistan is ready to build its own nuclear reactor and purchase one from PRC as well. This was stated by the chief of Pakistan Nuclear Energy Agency, Ashfaq Ahmed, while speaking at a seminar in Lahore organized in collaboration with the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA].

As you are aware, presently Pakistan has two nuclear reactors. One, with a 90 MW capacity, was bought from Canada several years ago. The other, with a 300 MW capacity, was bought from the PRC last year and efforts are being made to commission it. These two nuclear reactors are not too much for a big country like Pakistan. But, despite the claims of Dr. Ashfaq Ahmad that there are offers in the world market to sell nuclear reactors, Pakistan cannot buy them. This is because there is a condition attached on all such offers, i.e. that the buyer-country should sign the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT]. But, it seems that Pakistan does not have any intention to sign it now. Although it believes this treaty discriminates against nonnuclear states, Islamabad will sign it in principle if it is signed by India first. At the Lahore seminar, Ashfaq Ahmed reaffirmed this stand. He announced, among other things, that Pakistan wants to pursue its own path of developing nuclear energy and to achieve self sufficiency as it does not want to accept the discriminatory NPT. Pakistan's cooperation with PRC in this delicate field is a vital question to be considered.

After PRC's signing of the NPT at the end of last year, PRC-Pakistan cooperation in the nuclear field has come under certain regulations. Now, the nuclear reactors purchased from PRC will come under IAEA controls. As announced by Islamabad, those purchased by Pakistan will be used according to the regulations and will be under IAEA control. In my opinion, Pakistan's acceptance of these conditions is a step toward accepting the NPT.

CIS Commander Says Tactical N-Arms Now in Russia

*OW1210184392 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1721 GMT 12 Oct 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The CIS allied forces commander-in-chief, Air Marshal Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov believes that the general situation in the military sphere within the framework of the Commonwealth has been affected favorably, as "there has appeared clarity on the issue of conventional forces and tactical nuclear arms". Speaking at a news conference in Moscow on Monday Marshal Shaposhnikov said that "all tactical nuclear arms have already been moved to facilities in the Russian Federation".

CIS commander-in-chief has said there is no need for each state to make its armed forces part of the allied ones. Marshal Shaposhnikov said that in a number of areas, such as anti-aircraft defence, cooperation is possible, however. He recalled that at the recent Defence Ministers' Council in Bishkek he invited his CIS counterparts to draft an agreement on a standard system of anti-aircraft defence. Shaposhnikov said that the CIS Defence Ministers are expected to initial the treaty on November 4-5 in Moscow.

About Ukraine's special attitude to the strategic forces Shaposhnikov said the problem was in resolving property disputes, because "Kiev maintains nuclear arms are not just military hardware but a material asset having a price".

CIS commander-in-chief said that in the near future Kyrgyzstan was going to send a CIS peace-keeping force in the near future. Shaposhnikov said that the 201st Russian division deployed in Tajikistan would not be included in the peace-keeping force for the time being. It would guard the essential facilities, such as the Nurek Hydro. Shaposhnikov recalled that Tajikistan did not have an army of its own. Shaposhnikov said that "it would make sense to conclude an agreement with that republic on the temporary presence of Russian troops there".

Russia, U.S. Prepare for Nuclear Arms Treaty

*LD1610134792 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1207 GMT 16 Oct 92*

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondents Oleg Polovko and Sergey Staroselskiy]

[Text] Moscow October 16 TASS—Russian-US talks on the preparation of a treaty on considerable cuts in nuclear armaments "will not last long, although it is hard to say when they are to be over", Sergey Yastrzhembskiy, a spokesman for the Russian Foreign Ministry, said at a briefing on Friday commenting on US mass media reports that Russia is delaying the talks.

He refused to comment on "technical details" of the preparation of the treaty, but said the general agreement is being transferred into "the language of juridical terms" jointly with the U.S. side at present.

The framework agreement on the preparation of the treaty was signed in Washington in June during the visit of Russian President Boris Yeltsin. The presidents of both countries agreed to have the treaty worked out soon.

Yastrzhembskiy said the issue was discussed in detail by Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev and Acting Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger at their recent meeting in New York, as well as with Frank Wisner, first undersecretary of state, during his visit to Moscow on October 5-7.

Russia, U.S., UK Meet on BW Compliance*PM1210093592 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
6 Oct 92 p 3*

[Article by Vitaliy Kasyn under the rubric "From Confidential Sources": "I Bet Moscow Was Swindled"]

[Text] This fall, high-ranking representatives of the U.S. and British governments visited our country. The aim of the visit, so it was stated, amounted to a desire to urgently dispel the concern of Washington and London with regard to Russia's compliance with the Convention on Banning Biological Weapons. The concern in question was described, in particular, in an article by Jeffrey Smith, published on the front page of THE WASHINGTON POST for 31 August: "Russia Unable to Eliminate Biological Weapons Program."

The majority of Russian newspapers took up tones of alarm on this score, claiming that research being carried out in this country in the sphere of protecting the population from such weapons was leading to wholesale epidemics of the plague, anthrax, Legionnaire's disease, and tularemia. In this way the ground for contrition was prepared. Then, at the West's request, the apposite dialogue took place in Moscow 10-11 September.

"Guiltily bowing its head," Moscow officially acknowledged that such research had taken place in the Russian Federation before the decree on banning the development of bacteriological weapons, signed by Boris Yeltsin 11 April 1992, moreover in clear violation of the 1972 convention. The impression, incidentally, arises that the consultations with specialists, after which the aforementioned decree was signed, were inadequate. Otherwise the president would have recognized that there was no longer anything to ban: The development of biological weapons of an offensive character in our country was ended long before this.

The September meeting of Russian, U.S., and British representatives was conducted behind closed doors. PRAVDA's correspondent managed to meet one of the participants, however. At his request we will call him X. He said that a telegram about the arrival of the high-ranking visitors was received two days before the meeting itself. Astounding haste! But when I asked whether our specialists could visit the United States or Britain at the same short notice, X laughed heartily: You really are naive! he said.

In conversation with the PRAVDA correspondent our specialists expressed concern over other countries' compliance with the convention's requirements. Moreover, the meeting held in Moscow simply did not enable scientists to rid themselves of such concerns: The Russian specialists prepared a document containing entirely justified suspicions regarding the U.S. biological weapons potential. But as ill luck would have it, the leader of our delegation, Deputy Foreign Minister Grigoriy Berdennikov, for some reason did not find it possible to hand it to his guests officially.

X testifies that the "highlight" of the program at the meeting was the report of Mr. G. MacCaffree, lieutenant general, deputy chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff. The thrust of his speech was an attempt to prove... the ineffectiveness of biological weapons! The civilized countries, he said, possess the proper defense potentials.

Projecting these excessively optimistic evaluations if only onto the perimeter of Russia's troubled southern borders, you feel unprecedented complacency: Even in these times of unrest it is by no means obligatory for Russian citizens to shell out for their own native bacteriological program. With new partners in the West, Russians, it turns out, can sleep peacefully: They are guaranteed against both epidemics, and the effects of biological weapons in the event of unforeseen events. After all our best friends are the United States and Great Britain, and these civilized countries already have the proper defense potential.

I am prepared to argue, X said, that in convincing the Russian leadership that such a carefree, irresponsible attitude was possible to this problem, the West once again "hoodwinked" our politicians, and indeed, our generals.

X considers the real sensation to be an undisclosed treaty, concluded absolutely unofficially at the Moscow meeting by the top defense ministry functionaries of the Russian Federation, the United States, and the Britain on maintaining and continuing the projects of the biological defense program only in specialized military institutions. This is confirmed indirectly in the Russian delegation's statement that Moscow henceforth "agreed that any NONMILITARY facility could be visited at any time with a view to removing ambiguities."

How in fact is the West's distrust of Russia's civil scientific centers to be explained given its simultaneous alignment with military institutes? I would like to have posed this and other questions to Medical Services General Valentin Yevstigneyev, chief of the Bacteriological Weapons Defense Directorate. But, he categorically refused to speak to PRAVDA's correspondent, diplomatically giving to understand that the U.S. and British military were now and forever the Russian military's best friends.

Nevertheless, the West still suspects that Russia is maintaining an offensive biological program. It would appear that it is this circumstance which induced B. Yeltsin in early October to give orders for an investigation to be conducted into the activity of St. Petersburg's Institute of Extra-Pure Biological Compounds with the participation of foreign scientists. It is believed that work with strains of the plague, anthrax, and botulism toxin, are being conducted within its walls....

Of course, the people involved in this article are not astrologists or soothsayers. It can be predicted with 100-percent accuracy that the investigation will reveal at best the mistake of U.S. intelligence, however. The latter

has evidently confused a vaccine against the so-called "fowl plague" with bacteriological weapons.

One way or another the game is all in one half—the Russian half, on which, alas, instead of a serious national program of defense against biological weapons there is only an empty shell. No wonder Moscow has already reduced—several times, what is more—funding of research in this area. Moreover, an integral program on this score has not been developed at all in our country.

Having gone on to note that his fears are dictated by real facts, and not at all by "maniacal anti-Americanism," X mentioned that in 1969 the White House issued an official statement that it was ending research in the sphere of offensive biological weapons. In other words, the United States intimated that it had finished with this evil once and for all. Indisputably, a noble gesture on its part. But unfortunately, no one has seriously tested its authenticity.

Meanwhile, it is generally known that the Americans were pioneers in the development of the scientific principles of biological weapons: They build the plants, they created a powerful network of scientific research institutes, arsenals, and test sites, and efficient means of employing them. The question arises: What are these institutes engaged in today? Has, say, the Dugway test site in the State of Utah, where, until recently the biggest biological weapons testing complexes were situated and functioned, ceased its activity? Have the plants and technical equipment for producing biological weapons been destroyed?

Russia has no proof of this. It is known only that the U.S. Defense Department Institute of Infectious Diseases in Fort Detrich was known in the past as a center for developing biological weapons. Today, according to our information, the laboratories of this institution are supplied on a priority basis with the necessary equipment.

What, X asks, stops us from sending a group of Russian scientists and experts to the aforementioned region of the United States for the purposes of verification? After all, the border between defense and attack in the case of biological weapons is flimsy. In order, for instance, to obtain an effective vaccine against anthrax, it is necessary to possess the necessary strain of the pathogen of this illness and to conduct the relevant tests, in conditions, moreover, that are as close as possible to real. The Americans have these possibilities.

By way of an example X again referred to the activity of the institute in Fort Detrich. There are around 90 staffers there engaged in the study of toxins, of whom 25 are doctors of science. Their intense interest in the problem of toxins does not accord with the degree of the health risk to the U.S. Army's military contingents from biological agents, especially the venoms of snakes, spiders, molluscs, and corals. So what is it all about? Is the United States expecting an all-out invasion by adders, spiders, and other poisonous vermin?

Now let us take for comparison the former Soviet Union. The "stone age" test ground on the island of Vozrozhdeniye in the Sea of Aral ceased to exist long ago, and its remains repose on the territory of the sovereign state of Kazakhstan.

There is a glaring imbalance in the sphere of biological defense weapons. The list of alarming questions for the U.S. side in fact relate to this sphere.

...The 1972 Convention on banning the development, production, storage, and use of biological weapons was signed and ratified by 112 states. Today the moment has come to enhance the effectiveness of this important international treaty. It is evidently necessary to create a multilateral control mechanism to put all signatories to the convention onto conditions of parity.

Russian Ministries Conflict on Joining U.S. NPT

*OW1010001692 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1700 GMT 9 Oct 92*

[Report by diplomatic correspondents Andrey Borodin, Dmitriy Boskoboynikov, Igor Porshnev and others; from the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature—transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Russian Foreign Economic Relations Ministry does not share the position of the Russian Foreign Ministry which at recent consultations with the U.S. State Department in Moscow agreed to Russia joining the Missile Technology Non-Proliferation Treaty, Diplomatic Panorama was informed by Deputy Russian Foreign Economic Relations Minister Sergey Glazyev. Glazyev said that Russia would now be required to observe U.S. legislation—"which was even more rigid than the regulations for the non-proliferation treaty"—in this field and, as a result, could lose prospective markets in India, Brazil and China.

"Russian firms which export high technological products do not receive the same support from the country's leadership, Foreign Ministry and Supreme Soviet as similar firms receive in the U.S. and France from their respective institutions."

The Deputy Foreign Economic Relations Minister doubted the grounds on which the high ranking Foreign Ministry official made his statement. He told Diplomatic Panorama that Russian and American experts had definitely discussed the problems surrounding the Non-Proliferation Treaty at recent consultations in Moscow, but no agreement about Russia joining it had been reached. He said that the Foreign Ministry henceforth pledged protection for the interests of Russian exporters of high technological products. The U.S. was particularly concerned about the intention of Congress to increase the sanctions already in force with relation to Glavkosmos (the department for space research), its satellites and other Russian organisations associated with it.

(These sanctions were introduced after Glavkosmos concluded a supplies contract for cryogenic boosters to India-Diplomatic Panorama note).

Reports of Russian Sub Exports to Iran

U.S. 'Worried'

OW0810094492 Moscow INTERFAX in English
0836 GMT 8 Oct 92

[Report by diplomatic correspondents Andrey Borodin, Dmitriy Voskoboinikov and Igor Porshnev; from the 7 October "Diplomatic Panorama" feature—transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The U.S. administration is worried by Russia's exports of submarines and other armaments to Iran, National Coordinator of U.S. programmes for humanitarian and technical aid to CIS Richard Armitage told DP [Diplomatic Panorama].

The official goal of his visit to Moscow is to coordinate the details of the humanitarian-aid programmes for Russia. Last week, the U.S. Senate linked the United States' financial aid to Russia with the termination of Russia's military-related exports to Iran.

The American diplomat told DP that Iran is pursuing the policy of terrorism at a state level and expressed hope that Russia will stop supplying Iran with armaments.

A high-ranking official of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations told DP, however, that Russia will continue to sell weapons to Iran. In the estimate of this ministry's experts, the gain from the sale of three submarines to Iran will exceed the worth of U.S. aid three or four times.

Military equipment and ammunition still remains an important aspect of Russia's exports, this official said. He also added that the Russian industry is going through a time of trials, which must be taken into account.

He pointed out that Russia's military exports to Iran have a balanced character and are strictly dozed [word as received] in accordance with the agreements concluded with the former Soviet Union. "Military-technical cooperation with Iran is based on the principle of defence sufficiency," he said.

He also noted that Russia takes due account of the negative effects of its arms supplies to Iraq. "We carefully weigh-out all possible consequences of arms exports," he went on to say.

A high-ranking representative of the Russian Defence Ministry believes that the deal with Iran does not meet Russia's national interests. The Defence Ministry's experts in strategic planning will have to think how, should the need arise, to neutralize the Russian-made submarines sold to Iran—the world's best diesel submarines. One can not disregard the possibility of Iran using these submarines for shutting the Strait of Hormuz for

Russian and American ships. The damage may far surpass the gain from selling these submarines.

By defending the deal with Iran the Russian Foreign Ministry is just trying to cover up the obvious error committed by the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations, said this high-ranking military official. He believes that Boris Yeltsin's criticism of Petr Aven, the minister of foreign economic relations, is due to this thoughtless deal with Iran.

Moscow To 'Go Ahead'

OW1410202692 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1743 GMT 14 Oct 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Although the issue of arms sales was not on the agenda of today's talks in Moscow between the Russian and Iranian foreign ministers, Russia will go ahead with weapons exports to Iran, the Russian minister's aide Galina Sidorova told IF [INTERFAX]. She said Moscow "would not sell the types of weapons capable of tipping the strategic balance of forces in the region", however.

In her words, Moscow's support of international sanctions against Libya and Iraq had squeezed the export market for Russian arms manufacturers and the country's important source of foreign exchange revenues. "Our western partners ought to realise they will have to give room to Russian weapons makers who are in need of new export markets", Sidorova said.

She also said the agenda was dominated by the question of a bilateral political agreement the two countries are expected to initial during the Russian minister's visit to Tehran next month.

The Russian minister expressed concern over the situation in Tajikistan hoping that Iran would act "in the spirit of understanding" in relation to CIS Islamic member-states.

Sidorova said the theme had invariably cropped on the agenda of bilateral contacts in recent time and Russia made it clear that the depth and intensity of bilateral relations would to a larger extent depend on Iran's Central Asia policies.

Russia Assures 'Not Destabilizing'

OW0210174492 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1602 GMT 2 Oct 92

[Report by diplomatic correspondents Andrei Borodin, Dmitri Voskoboinikov, and Igor Porshnev; from the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature—transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Russia's weapons deliveries to Iran are "balanced and are not destabilizing the region." This was stated at a briefing in Moscow on Friday October 2nd by Sergey Yastrzhembsky, director of the Russian Foreign Ministry's press and information department.

Russia makes weapons deliveries to other states in a restrained and responsible manner, led by the principles developed at the London meeting of permanent U.N. Security Council representatives. Yastrezhembzsky was commenting on the amendment passed by the American senate which makes aid to Russia dependent on the cease of Russian-Irani military cooperation.

In an unofficial conversation with journalists he remarked that weapons deliveries to Iran were being done in accordance with agreements signed by the former Soviet Union. These exports are a secure source of hard currency for Russian industries which are presently not experiencing the best of times.

'Purely Commercial Aims' Noted

MK1410095592 Moscow MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI
in Russian No. 42, 18 Oct 92 (Signed to Press
13 Oct 92) p 13

[Interview with Sergey Kortunov, chief of the Russian Foreign Ministry Export Control and Conversion Administration, by Dmitriy Yakushkin; place and date not given: "Foreign Ministry and Weapons Trade"]

[Text] [Yakushkin] Apparently the Foreign Ministry used not to oversee weapons sales.

[Kortunov] That is not quite right. At least since the mid-80's the Foreign Ministry exercised some political control over this. Having said that, our role has now changed.

[Yakushkin] To what do you attribute that?

[Kortunov] Many enterprises in the military-industrial complex, when they received the right to independently seek foreign partners and hold preliminary talks with them, misinterpreted this as a completely free hand. A threat emerged that our weapons or technologies would end up in countries subject to UN sanctions.

Now all major deals for weapons deliveries or research and development work in the military sphere undergo expert appraisal in our administration. They must be in line with Russia's international commitments.

[Yakushkin] The U.S. Senate adopted a tough stance on the question of Russia's sale of submarines to Iran. Did you expect this?

[Kortunov] We are pursuing purely commercial aims in the deal with Iran. Of course, we take many factors into account, above all the Iranian Government's foreign policy, the level of equipment of the Iranian Armed Forces, and the possible consequences of weapons deliveries for the region's states and for Russia. This work is carried out in liaison with the Defense Ministry and Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations. Furthermore,

so far as the submarines are concerned, in our view diesel-powered training submarines cannot destabilize the situation in the Persian Gulf.

We assumed that the development of military-technical links with Tehran would scarcely please the United States. The latter's aim is not so much to prevent the growth of Iran's military potential as to squeeze Russia right out of this market, however. This pressure has intensified recently.

[Yakushkin] How do the Americans react to Russian arms deliveries to China?

[Kortunov] China is a traditional partner of ours. The United States has never made serious complaints to us before. The attempt by some people in the U.S. Administration to justify the sale of 150 F-16 aircraft to Taiwan by citing Russia's delivery of 24 Su-27's to China simply will not stand up at all: You need only look at the sizes of the deals. It is perfectly obvious that G. Bush did this out of purely pragmatic interests on the eve of the elections and under pressure from the "General Dynamics" company. To be honest, we did not expect this from such a farsighted politician. As a result U.S. relations with China have deteriorated and China has refused to take part in the consultations among permanent members of the UN Security Council on questions of conventional arms deliveries.

[Yakushkin] To what extent is the world weapons market already "divided up" today, and does Russia have a real chance of expanding sales?

[Kortunov] It is "divided up" if only because purchasers look to long-standing suppliers. To change suppliers entails tremendous expenditure in purchasing spares, retraining personnel, and at least initially paying foreign technical specialists.

Moreover, weapons deliveries are usually made with the supplier providing a loan on preferential terms. In present conditions Russia cannot permit itself this luxury, and it will scarcely be possible to obtain a loan on preferential terms from a commercial bank. So expansion of the market for our arms is more often than not merely a dream: There is no real basis for this.

[Yakushkin] Which countries are Russia's likeliest clients?

[Kortunov] I can only say that the most promising countries are those of the Near East and South and Southeast Asia, that is, the countries with money. As for Latin American and African states, any expansion of exports to there in the immediate future is unlikely because of the former's close links with the United States and the latter's insolvency. We will try to penetrate this market, too, however. In my view, the Foreign Ministry should pursue a vigorous protectionist policy here.

Russian Arms Sales Said Worth \$4-12 Billion*LD1510112092 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 0400 GMT 15 Oct 92*

[Text] The annual revenue for the Russian budget from arms exports may be between \$4-12 billion. This was stated in Moscow at a news conference devoted to the opening of the international conference, Conversion and Cooperation, by Mikhail Maley, Russian presidential advisor on conversion issues. He noted that Russia will not increase production of conventional weapons, but will remain on the same level as leading Western states as regards the production of small arms.

Russia May Resume Novaya Zemlya N-Tests in 1993*LD1310190792 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in
Russian 1735 GMT 13 Oct 92*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Mikhail Shevtsov]

[Text] Moscow, 13 Oct—"If the United States joins the Russian unilateral moratorium on nuclear tests, which expires this month, then Russia will only welcome this decision," Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev stated here today at a meeting with Russian and foreign journalists. Russia is not going to carry out a single nuclear explosion in 1992.

The question of carrying out nuclear explosions on Novaya Zemlya in 1993 has not yet been discussed, the minister noted. He considers that Russia's unilateral moratorium cannot remain in force indefinitely, however. Every type of weapon needs constant improvement and testing. Grachev intends to put forward for examination by the Russian president and parliament a proposal to resume nuclear tests on Novaya Zemlya in limited numbers—two to three explosions per year. If tests are resumed then it will not be earlier than mid-1993, the defense minister stated.

Touching on the state of the nuclear test site on Novaya Zemlya, Pavel Grachev noted that on the ecological level, the situation there is not as dangerous as reported in some of the mass media. He said that at the site of the most recent nuclear weapon test which he visited recently the background radiation was 14 milliroentgen per hour. From the technical viewpoint the test site meets the necessary requirements. Decisions have been taken to reduce the number of troops on Novaya Zemlya. In particular the number of radio-technical companies, some divisions of the anti-aircraft missile regiment, and air defense aircraft units will be reduced.

Russia Invites Journalists To Nuclear Range*LD1410223192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1440 GMT 14 Oct 92*

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondent Vladimir Gondusov]

[Text] Moscow October 14 TASS—The Russian Defence Ministry on Wednesday offered an opportunity to a large group of Russian and foreign journalists to visit a nuclear range situated on the Arctic archipelago of Novaya Zemlya that had been a no-entry zone until recently. Journalists will see test platforms of the nuclear range and will familiarise themselves with the ecological situation in the archipelago.

As many as 132 nuclear explosions were staged at test grounds of the range on Novaya Zemlya (87 atmospheric explosions, three underwater and 42 underground explosions) from 1957 to 1990. This is a heavier load than that of any range in the world. The most intensive tests were conducted in 1958—26 tests. There were 24 tests in 1961 and 34 in 1962. The most powerful explosion with a yield of 58 megatonnes was staged on the archipelago on October 30, 1961.

Since the beginning of military construction in mid-50, institutions of civilian power were eliminated on Novaya Zemlya and local people moved to the mainland. Since that time the power there fully belongs to the military. But in addition to the military, the archipelago is inhabited by researchers and their families.

By decree of Russian President Boris Yeltsin nuclear tests on Novaya Zemlya were suspended till October 26, 1992. Russian defence minister, General Pavel Grachev said that if tests are resumed, this will be not earlier than the middle of next year, however. At the same time, during a conversation with ITAR-TASS, the minister said that Russia's unilateral moratorium on nuclear testing cannot be indefinite. Each kind of arms needs to be constantly perfected.

In September, General Grachev visited the Arctic archipelago and familiarised himself with a state and possibilities of the main technical structures of the nuclear range and problems of its personnel. "The range meets technological requirement", he said. "I decided that the military contingent on Novaya Zemlya be reduced".

According to the expert assessment, the radiation situation in the area of the range is quite safe.

Russia To Eliminate Nuclear Arms in 7 Years*OW1310150192 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1432 GMT 13 Oct 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] After the elections in Georgia, the conclusion of a treaty of friendship, cooperation and security with that state has become a matter of near future, Russian Defence Minister Pavel Grachev announced on Tuesday during his talks with Argentine Defence Minister Antonio Gonzalez.

Grachev said that during the next seven years the nuclear weapons located in Belarus, Ukraine and Kazakhstan will be removed to Russia and eliminated.

He also announced that by the year 2000 the Russian army will be 1.5 million strong. Over the two months since the Russian army came into being, its personnel has been cut down from 5 to 2.2 million men, he said.

Russia Views Nuclear Withdrawal From Belarus

*OW1410011692 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1823 GMT 13 Oct 92*

[Report by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovsky, and Vladimir Shishlin; edited by Boris Grishchenko; from the "Presidential Bulletin" feature—transmitted via KYODO]

[Excerpts] Making comments on the outcome of the CIS leaders' summit in Bishkek, Vyacheslav Kebich, the Belarusian Prime Minister, said: "Nothing bad or good has occurred in Bishkek." Addressing a joint press conference on Monday in Minsk, Stanislav Shushkevich, the chairman of the Supreme Soviet, and the head of the government appreciated a good preparation of the meeting. "The documents have been prepared in such a way that it was possible to sign them all at once or not to sign them at all", Shushkevich said. [passage omitted]

As far as withdrawal of the strategic nuclear forces from the Belarusian territory is concerned, Shushkevich reported about agreements which had been reached with Russia; according to these agreements the last nuclear warhead will leave Belarus in 2.5 years.

IF Note: According to the Lisbon protocols to the Vienna agreements, the nuclear weapons is supposed to be withdrawn from Belarus in the course of seven years. Addressing Belarusian writers before the press conference, the head of the parliament declared about the intention to cut down the terms of missiles' withdrawal to two years.

Russia, Ukraine Negotiate Nuclear Plants' Fuel

*OW0910161792 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1428 GMT 09 Oct 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk charged the Cabinet of Ministers with the task of conducting negotiations with the Russian Government for the closing of a bilateral agreement on the supply of fuel to Ukrainian atomic energy plants and the formal acceptance of fuel exhausted at the plants. Under such an agreement, deliveries of natural uranium to the Russian Federation would have to be taken into account.

Ukraine Surprised by CIS Position on N-Arms

*OW0810155692 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1541 GMT 8 Oct 92*

[Report by diplomatic correspondents Anrey Borodin, Dmitriy Voskoboinikov, and Igor Porshnev; from the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature—transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] An official of the Ukrainian Foreign Ministry informed DP [Diplomatic Panorama] that Commander of the CIS Armed Forces Shaposhnikov's statement to the effect that Russia alone should be responsible for the nuclear weapons of the former Soviet Union took Ukraine quite unawares. "Before making public statements, this important problem should have been discussed first by the Ukrainian and Russian leaders and by the heads of the two other nuclear heirs of the former Soviet Union—Belarus and Kazakhstan," said the Ukrainian diplomat.

He came to understand that Shaposhnikov's statement is likely to be discussed during the summit in Bishkek where a Ukrainian delegation, led by Kravchuk, flew out today.

He said, however, that Ukraine will not reverse its plans to become a nuclear-free state.

Ukraine's Nuclear Policy Position Outlined

*AU0910200292 Kiev MOLOD UKRAYINY
in Ukrainian 25 Sep 92 p 1*

[Article by Viktor Zaborsky, candidate of historical sciences: "The Fate of Nuclear Weapons: Possible Variants"]

[Text] The disintegration of the Soviet Union has created quite a number of problems for the new independent states, including the problem of control over the nuclear military potential. It was generally decided that Russia must inherit the entire strategic and tactical nuclear weapons by taking them under its administrative and operational control. In this case, the existing balance of forces would not be violated, and it would be possible to preclude the danger of nuclear weapons proliferation. The Ukrainian leadership's present stance regarding the nuclear potential may, perhaps, spoil the joyous mood of the partners in the CIS and Western countries, however.

At the beginning of September, a scheduled meeting of defense ministers of the CIS member countries was held in the headquarters of the CIS Joint Armed Forces. They failed to ultimately resolve the question of the CIS nuclear strategy or of the status of strategic nuclear forces, however. Nor could the problem of administrative subordination of all nuclear arsenals to the main command of the CIS Joint Armed Forces be resolved. The impossibility of settling these important matters was due to the position occupied by the Ukrainian delegation. As is known, so far only the procedure for the operational subordination of the nuclear triad (land-based missile forces, naval forces, and air force) to Marshall Shaposhnikov has been determined. This means that the chief of staff of the CIS Joint Armed Forces will assume control of the strategic nuclear weapons only in the most critical situations. Regarding the administrative control of the strategic weapons that are situated on the territory of Ukraine, Shaposhnikov will not tolerate it. The Group for Nuclear Planning of the headquarters of the CIS Joint Armed Forces cannot

function without such subordination. Nor can a clear nuclear doctrine of the CIS Joint Armed Forces be elaborated. This will, in turn, render the concept of collective security unreliable. Kazakhstan, which formerly claimed its right of control over missiles located on its territory, is now in favor of transferring all nuclear forces to the Main Command. The leadership of Belarus, with the exception of insignificant numbers of politicians and high-ranking military figures, is also inclined to stick to such a policy. At the same time, Ukraine is consistently advancing the demand to exercise administrative subordination of atomic weapons on its territory.

The Ukrainian military has already made a number of steps in this direction. For example, an Uzyn division of strategic aviation that is within the CIS Joint Armed Forces nuclear triad has been placed under the command of [Ukraine's] Ministry of Defense. In May, a Center for Strategic Planning was created within Ukraine's Armed Forces General Staff. It is possible that variants of control over the strategic weapons in Ukraine are being examined there. If administrative control passes to Ukraine, the right of operational control will also be in the hands of the republic, however. This will, in fact, mean that Ukraine will assume the status of a nuclear state.

American analysts, predicting possible actions on the part of the Ukrainian leadership, point out three variants: Ukraine may give up claims to administrative control and join the Collective Security Treaty; it may decide on complete and irrevocable withdrawal of strategic weapons from Ukraine; and declare about its intentions to become a nuclear state.

In our opinion, today, it is early to talk about the republic's political and technical readiness to dismantle strategic missiles and transfer them to Russia. To all appearances, the two other possibilities are being examined in Ukraine.

The first variant lies in guaranteeing its security without joining military blocs and without relying upon somebody else's obligations. In this case, Ukrainian leaders will regard nuclear weapons as a reliable way to deter a potential aggressor, primarily Russia. The advocates of this variant believe that it will provide a full guarantee of security and will also force the West to give more attention to the new nuclear state. Of course, this scenario has considerable shortcomings. It is most likely that the West's reaction to the emergence of a new member of the "nuclear club" will be extremely negative. This step taken by Ukraine will upset the balance of forces and may encourage some other countries to acquire nuclear arsenals. Besides, the departure from the previously adopted obligations will considerably harm the young state's international prestige.

Another variant is to give up all claims to the control over missiles and, by doing so, to waive the principle of non-alignment and to join the Tashkent Treaty on Collective Security. In that case, the entire nuclear weapons on the Ukrainian territory would be transferred to the operational and administrative control of the Main Command of the Joint Armed Forces, more specifically, to Russia.

This would undoubtedly mean denunciation of the principle of neutrality that was proclaimed in the State Sovereignty Declaration. The world community would have readily "forgiven" this to the Ukrainian leadership, however.

First, this is because the very concept of neutrality is already being revised by many countries. Second, because it was obvious from the very start: It will some day be necessary to give up some declared principles because they are not sufficiently well thought out.

There is at least one weak point in this variant, too, however. Having transferred nuclear weapons to Russia and having joined the Collective Security Treaty, Ukraine will have to rely upon Russia's obligations to defend the sovereignty and security of all signatories to the treaty. Will Russian be consistent in fulfilling its obligations, however? Will such dependence upon Russia conform to the interests of Ukraine's national security? Will such military partnership between Russia and Ukraine transform, in the course of time, into relations of pressure and blackmail on the part of Russia?

It appears that precisely these considerations are keeping the Ukrainian leadership from joining the Collective Security Treaty and have turned administrative control over nuclear weapons into a matter of dispute. So far, it may only be expected that the Ukrainian side will speak about this in more detail at the forthcoming meeting of defense ministers of the countries that are members of the Commonwealth of Independent States.

India Seeking To Buy Arms Spares From Ukraine

*LD1110150992 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 1200 GMT 9 Oct 92*

[Text] India intends to establish close military contacts with Ukraine. This will be promoted by the visit to Kiev in the coming week by Indian Defense Minister Sharad Pawar, ITAR-TASS reports, citing Indian diplomats in Ukraine. They say that during the visit the Indian side is hoping to solve the issue of supplies of spare parts to India for various types of armaments purchased from the former Soviet Union.

I will remind you that it is not long since India's defense minister visited Moscow.

Belarus To Withdraw, Destroy Nuclear Arms

U.S. Planning To Assume Costs

*PM1210143592 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA
in Russian 10 Oct 92 p 3*

[Report by Valeriy Kovalev: "Belarus Will Be Nuclear-Free State in Three or Four Years"]

[Text] I would remind you that last week representatives of the Belarusian and U.S. Armed Forces held talks in Minsk. During these talks an interstate agreement was prepared for signing.

In particular, the U.S. Government will assume the cost of transporting nuclear missile weapons to their designated destruction points in Russia and will provide the requisite equipment for this.

Colonel A. Krivolap, deputy chief of the Belarus National Agency for Verification and Inspections, who took part in the talks, told your correspondent that the U.S. side did not raise the question of reducing the timeframe for the withdrawal of nuclear arms. Analyzing recent statements made by S. Shushkevich, chairman of the Belarus Supreme Soviet, one can conclude that this will most likely occur within three or four years, however.

It is now known that the official signing of a government-level agreement between the Belarusian and U.S. sides will take place in a week or two.

Belarus May Reject U.S. Aid

*OW1010174992 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1636 GMT 10 Oct 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The agreement on US technical aid for removing nuclear weapons from Belarus due to be finalized in Washington on Oct 19 may not be signed after all, as the republic's deputy defence minister Aleksandr Tushinskiy has told INTERFAX in an exclusive interview. He represents Belarus in talks with the United States on this issue. The cost of materials and technology, also training and consulting by the American side amounts to \$1mn [million].

Tushinskiy explains that Belarus cannot accept the wording of the clause under which the American side "bears no responsibility for the quality of work by its representatives, nor for the lives and health of Belorussian specialists working with the methods and equipment provided by American colleagues". Aleksandr Tushinskiy said that though the agreement was initialled

by the two countries' defence authorities on Sept 30 in Minsk, he was not going to sign a document "which was not at all in Belarus' interests".

Belarus Conference on NPT Opens in Minsk

*LD1010090192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1711 GMT 8 Oct 92*

[By BELINFORM-TASS correspondent Yekaterina Vysotskaya]

[Text] Minsk October 8 TASS—A Belarusian-American conference on "International Security and Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons" opened today in Minsk. Taking part in the conference are prominent scientists from Belarus and the United States, politologists [as received], journalists, diplomats and military experts. The main task of this bilateral meeting is to attract Belarusian supporters to active participation in efforts to ensure the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, and set up in the republic a group of independent analysts and experts on problems of war and peace. The organizers of the international conference include the Belarusian Peace Committee, the Center on the Studies of Problems of War, Peace and News Media under the New York University and the Monterey Institute of International Research.

Opening the conference, Josef Pilat, American politologist, working with the National Research Center on Security Problems, said: "The 21st century will not be determined only by economics as many proclaim it from high rostra—the policy also remains. Today we are only changing over from the two-polar division of the world to a multi-polar one. The historical period of conflicts in American-Soviet relations is over but the so far forgotten history of "small" states comes to life. For instance, ethnic nationalism and Islamic fundamentalism challenge the world community. Therefore, we are raising today questions of universal national security, speaking for the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and reduction of world tension. Besides, in future dialogues we intend to discuss various aspects of environment protection and preservation of resources, as well as large-scale problems dealing with aids and narcotics."

On the first day of the work of the conference, heated discussions were brought about by experts' reports on the breakdown of military structures in the former Soviet Union and their effect on the military-industrial infrastructure. Participants in the conference also touched upon problems of jurisdiction and control, and the obtaining of consent of Ukraine, Belarus and Kazakhstan to withdraw nuclear weapons, located on their territories, to Russia.

Kazakh Sale of Nuclear Arms to Iran Alleged**U.S. Paper Publishes Report**

NC1510095692 *Moscow Radio Moscow in Persian*
1330 GMT 14 Oct 92

[Commentary by Sergey Viktorov]

[Text] The U.S. Government has said it has no proof that the news of the sale of nuclear arms to Iran by Kazakhstan is true. THE WASHINGTON POST recently published a report on this. Meanwhile, the nuclear transaction between Iran and Kazakhstan allegedly took place with Russia's agreement, which was accompanied by silence.

Commenting on this report, the U.S. State Department Official Spokesman Joseph (Schneider) said: Similar reports were received and carefully followed up through diplomatic and information channels. No specific proof has been found about this (allegation).

The Russian Foreign and Defense Ministries refuted THE WASHINGTON POST report on the nuclear transaction between Iran and Kazakhstan, on which Radio Moscow commentator Sergey Viktorov writes:

The fresh accusation, this time by THE WASHINGTON POST, alleging that Iran, Kazakhstan, and Russia deceitfully intend to trample the nuclear nonproliferation pact, was refuted at the highest levels in Moscow and Washington.

It appeared that there would be no place for more talk and that it was merely an issue of yet another U.S. newspaper's intentional or unintentional publication of a false news item. Nevertheless, the question we ask is: Why does the Western press persist in publishing news of Iran's possible purchase of nuclear technology from the CIS? The State Department accepts this. The first thing that comes to mind in relation with this is the West's extreme disinterest and that of its news mouthpieces in the current political system in Iran. It is highly likely that such reports communicate to those who peruse the Western press how bad and aggressive the Iranians are and how they allegedly want to access the nuclear weapon to threaten the existence of the happy Western world, hence these publications. These reports also simultaneously discredit the Russians, the Kazakhs, and other CIS members, who are allegedly selling such arms to Tehran. It is not bad that Washington officials refute such reports, but, after all, the news is already fed to the masses and may remain in the minds of a few, with some perhaps not realizing that such reports are refuted.

I do not think that the issue is merely a propaganda war between the West and Tehran. Existing proof shows that there are serious military-economic interests behind such commotion. It is much easier [for the West] to hide its own arms transactions with regional countries, the sale of American arms to Saudi Arabia, Israel, and Kuwait. By indirectly accusing Russia of agreeing with

the Iranian-Kazakh nuclear agreement, Moscow may be forced to stop its overt and legal sale of diesel-engine submarines to Iran or of missile [words indistinct]. There may be many schemes, but these are not very suitable in view of the increase in international trust.

Kazakhstan Denies 'Rumor'

PM1310124992 *Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA*
in Russian 13 Oct 92 p 3

[Article by Aleksandr Golts: "Nonsense about Kazakhstan's Nuclear Warheads... Or Why a Scotchd Rumor Has Been Revived"]

[Text] Experience proves that if a dubious news report crops up again once it has been scotched, it means that someone very much needs it to do so. Yesterday THE WASHINGTON POST published an article by R. Evans and R. Novak, who specialize in sensational revelations. The article claims that Iran has held talks with Kazakhstan on purchasing nuclear warheads and has even concluded a deal. Moreover, "high-ranking U.S. official spokesmen, who know about Iran's request to Kazakhstan, say that it may not be possible to prevent the supply of warheads if Tehran has already signed an agreement."

Now is the time to sound the alarm, since, if the authors are right, the regime governing the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons is being dangerously violated and the accords reached between the CIS republics and the United States are being undermined. But, let us wait before we get alarmed, for exactly the same story alarmed the whole world several months ago—and it was repeatedly refuted by official agencies of not just Russia and Kazakhstan but the United States, too.

But now this rumor has reappeared on the pages of an authoritative U.S. newspaper. Why? First, as can be concluded from the article, in order to score yet another point against the administration of George Bush, who is patently losing the presidential contest. The White House, the article claims, is demonstrating criminal inaction in the face of a new nuclear threat, one now stemming from Iran.

But, the main point here, it seems to me, is something else. The authors state that the Russian military are allowing Iran to acquire the bomb and become a nuclear power. They are doing this in disregard of the fact that the appearance of nuclear weapons in the Middle East would pose a serious threat to Russia. It transpires, Evans and Novak claim, that Moscow is doing this for the same reason for which...it sold submarines to Iran: The CIS countries are now ready to sell anything you like for hard currency. In short, this story about Kazakhstan's nuclear warheads is nonsense.

The arguments of those in the United States who claimed that the sale of diesel-powered submarines to Iran posed a threat to U.S. interests in the region and that the sale would lead to nothing less than a change in

the balance of forces in the Persian Gulf were too shaky. They have now decided to back them up by claims that Alma-Ata, with Moscow's tacit agreement, is selling nuclear weapons to Iran, thus presenting the arms sales policy of the CIS states, and of Russia in particular, as irresponsible and lending legitimacy to the growing campaign for sanctions and bans to be imposed on inconvenient competitors in the arms market.

To which it should be added that official representatives of the CIS Joint Armed Forces and the Russian Federation Foreign and Defense Ministries whom I asked to comment on THE WASHINGTON POST article expressed a common viewpoint: It is bogus. All nuclear weapons on Kazakhstan territory are kept under reliable control. There is no intention of selling them or any possibility of doing so.

Report Treated With 'Suspicion'

PM1510144992 London SAWT AL-KUWAYT
AL-DUWALI in Arabic 14 Oct 92 p 1

[Report by Ahmad al-Nu'man: "Kazakhstan Denies Selling Nuclear Warheads to Iran"]

[Text] Moscow—Kazakhstan yesterday officially denied that it could have sold or transferred nuclear weapons or warheads to any state. It emphasized that it is impossible for it to have held secret talks with Iran, because this falls under the joint powers of the Commonwealth of Independent States [CIS]. Besides, it is no longer a nuclear state.

This was stated in an interview conducted by SAWT AL-KUWAYT with Vitslav Kavalovich [name as transliterated], head of the information section at Kazakhstan's permanent mission in Moscow, in reply to a published article about a secret deal between Tehran and Alma-Ata involving nuclear warheads.

In his exclusive interview Kavalovich said that Kazakhstan, which has signed all treaties on the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons, has relinquished nuclear status and handed over all tactical nuclear weapons to Russia.

As for the strategic nuclear forces present on its territory, they are under the joint leadership of the Commonwealth countries. Thus it is not reasonable to even talk about selling nuclear weapons or warheads.

If the information about the sale of nuclear warheads was provided by a source other than our sources, I advise you to treat it with suspicion.

He added: It is also impossible for Kazakhstan to have held secret talks with Iran, because all nuclear issues fall under the joint jurisdiction of the Commonwealth. In practice they fall within the military's competence. So the Republic of Kazakhstan has no direct link with nuclear weapons. It only has a nuclear reactor in the city of Aktau for peaceful purposes.

The Kazakh official said in his interview with SAWT AL-KUWAYT that it had been agreed that all tactical nuclear weapons be withdrawn from the countries in which they had been stationed and sent back to Russia to be dismantled.

As for the remaining strategic weapons on Kazakh and Russian territory, they will be destroyed under joint agreements, and their bases will not be changed [wa lan yujra taghyir qawa'iduha]. At the Bishkek summit there was discussion of handing over the command of the strategic forces to Russia. Thus Kazakhstan has not sold, nor will it sell, any nuclear warheads to Iran or to any other state.

According to information obtained by SAWT AL-KUWAYT in Moscow, on the basis of Kazakhstan's own interests Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev cannot run the risk of concluding any nuclear deal with a foreign state inasmuch as, thanks to its president's policy, it has made great achievements both inside and outside the Commonwealth.

Press Service Denies Sale

LD1510101592 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
0852 GMT 15 Oct 92

[Text] Alma-Ata October 15 TASS—The Kazakh president's press service has described allegations about the sale by the republic of nuclear weapons to Iran as not corresponding to reality.

The press service issued this statement on the occasion of the publication in the newspaper WASHINGTON POST on October 12 of an article by columnists Evans and Novak. The article alleged that Kazakhstan and Iran struck a covert deal, as a result of which nuclear warheads were sold to Iran but were not delivered to the customer.

The president's press service is authorised to state that this report does not correspond to reality. Kazakhstan as a state that joined the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and signed together with Belarus, Russia and Ukraine an agreement on joint measures with regard to nuclear weapons, scrupulously honours its commitments.

Iran's Va'ez Denies Story

LD1510111792 Tehran IRNA in English
1052 GMT 15 Oct 92

[Text] Moscow, Oct. 15, IRNA—A senior foreign ministry official here Thursday rejected reports by Western news media, especially those in the U.S., on Kazakhstan's intention to supply Iran with nuclear warheads.

Deputy Foreign Minister for Euro-American Affairs Mahmud Va'ez, here for talks on Tehran-Moscow ties, stressed that Iran as a member of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), had constantly supported the nuclear weapons non-proliferation treaty.

"The principled policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran is preservation of stability and tranquility in the region," Va'ezzi told IRNA in an interview. He added that in her relations Iran gave priority to the regional states.

As for the recent fuss on the sale of Russian-made arms to Iran, Va'ezzi said the contracts for these "merely defensive weapons" had been concluded in the past.

He also rejected recent reports by the Russian mass media on a competition between Iran and Turkey for exerting influence in the Central Asian and Trans-Caucasus republics.

"There is no reason for such a competition between Iran and Turkey since both countries are members of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) where they work for the expansion of regional cooperation," the official added.

He described Tehran-Moscow ties as good and said during his two-day stay here he had held fruitful and constructive talks with high-ranking Russian political and economic officials.

The two countries, he noted, had close outlooks on regional issues and were interested in expansion of bilateral relations.

On Karabakh issue still unsolved despite efforts of Iran and a number of other international organizations, Va'ezzi ruled out a military solution to the problem.

He added, Iran would employ all her possibilities to lessen the intensity of the conflict and to this end would welcome any effort by any country for the establishment of peace in this region.

Lithuanian Government Signs IAEA NPT

*OW1610130492 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1209
GMT 16 Oct 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] By order of the Lithuanian Government, the republic's Minister of Energy [title as received], Leonas Asmantas, signed a treaty entitled "On the Making of Guarantees by the Republic of Lithuania Based on the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty" with the International Atomic Energy Agency on Thursday in Vilnius.

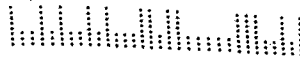
The IAEA's General Director, Hans Blix, signed the treaty on behalf of the organization.

According to the treaty, Lithuania must establish a system for inspecting its nuclear power plants; the system must also supervise the transportation and storage of all nuclear and radioactive materials on the republic's territory.

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